

GOSK

Jonathan David Steinhoff
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She was caught in a world that couldn't
work an electric can opener to save it's life -
until they made her their queen.

SIXTH DRAFT

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GOSK

1. Deep in outerspace 50's rock and roll music is faintly heard through the walls of a slick, shiny, black spacecraft. As we get nearer we see, by the light of a moon, that on the side of the spacecraft is a bumpersticker bearing the phrase, "Bobo For Mayor". Several car hood ornaments are also coming out of this side of the spacecraft. On the other side of the spacecraft, in colorful, stylish, electrically blinking but subtle lettering, are the words "THE MARS ZUNS (WE'RE THE STREET GANG FROM MARS!)"

Inside the spacecraft we hear the 50's rock and roll music much louder, playing on an old radio continuously. Five twenty-five year old men (the MARS ZUNS), seated, are passing around a droke (a strange Martian thing that somehow simultaneously has the appearance of a glass of wine and a joint, although it isn't), and have their eyes glued to a television monitor on which there is nothing but the blackness of outerspace. Their appearance is human except for the fact that they all have green hair and

beards. Each wears a motorcycle helmet, and on the backs of the black leather jackets they wear are the words "THE MARS ZUNS (WE'RE THE STREET GANG FROM MARS)". The decor has a homemade feeling, and includes a poster entitled "Nude Women Throughout The Universe" (throughout entire film no more than one quarter of the same photograph of the same, strange-looking woman is seen), and a photograph of one of the Mars Zuns, DERP, shaking hands with Elvis Presley.

JERP

(After a while) WHAT ARE WE STARING AT?

DERP

THAT SPECK RIGHT THERE. (DERP points, but the other MARS ZUNS' eyes remain glued to the monitor. In our extremely brief look at DERP's pointing finger it appears that it is not human. Short pause.) IT'S A PLANET CALLED KLUG. (Short pause) EVERYBODY REMEMBERS KLUG - WHERE WE LOST THAT DROKE WHEN WE HIT THAT CAR?

SWERP

(Too immersed in watching the blackness of outerspace on the monitor to follow what DERP said, SWERP holds the droke out to DERP) DID YOU SAY PASS THE DROKE? (DERP indicates to SWERP that he didn't mean to have the droke passed, however SWERP does not see this as he has not unglued his eyes from the television monitor, and continues holding out the droke, which CLERP promptly takes from him.)

JERP

WHAT SPECK? I DON'T SEE ONE.

DERP's chair suddenly moves him directly alongside of the television monitor, which he touches with his finger. We can now see clearly that his fingers do not look human, in addition to which he has dirty fingers and fingernails, which will prove to be the case with the other MARS ZUNS.

DERP

THERE.

JERP

I STILL DON'T SEE IT. YOU SEE IT, CLERP?

CLERP

NOPE.

We catch sight of DERP's booted foot, but cannot see what type of foot is in the boot, as camera almost lingers on it (without interrupting action).

DERP

(Tapping television monitor demonstratively with his dirty Martian fingernail) WELL, TAKE MY WORD FOR IT. IT'LL ENLARGE AS WE APPROACH. IT'LL - BE AS BIG AS THE MOON IN THE SKY.

JERP

THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID LAST TIME - THEN IT TURNED OUT TO BE SOME FOOD YOU SPILLED ON THE T.V. SCREEN.

DERP

YOU HAVE TO ADMIT THAT WAS WEIRD FOOD. WHAT PLANET DID THAT COME FROM? ANYBODY COULD HAVE MADE A MISTAKE WITH FOOD LIKE THAT.

JERP

WE WERE STARING AT IT FOR A WEEK.

All of their eyes remain on the television monitor as they speak. DERP flies over to a radio and switches stations. As he tunes in a radio station his face shows all the signs of someone opening a safe or someone operating a highly sophisticated piece of equipment.

JERP

GET SOME LATE 60's EARTH MUSIC. (Turning to CLERP) REMEMBER THAT, CLERP? I KEPT ASKING HIM, "ARE WE ALMOST THERE?" THEN IT TURNED OUT TO BE A PIECE OF FOOD ON THE T.V. SCREEN.

DERP's chair moves back to where it was before he was pointing at

the television monitor, as he flies back from the radio (simultaneously) into his moving chair. The MARS ZUNS' eyes are now no longer glued to the television monitor.

SWERP

WHAT DO WE DO WHEN WE GET TO KLUG?

DERP

(Solemnly) I HAD A NEW BUTTON INSTALLED.

THE MARS ZUNS (except DERP) start chanting in a whisper, "A NEW BUTTON, A NEW BUTTON".

DERP

(More solemnly, as the whispered chant continues) REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE ALL SLEEPING, BACK WHEN WE WERE ON, WHAT PLANET WAS IT? (Chant dies down) ANYWAY - THIS NEW BUTTON I BOUGHT IS... THE BEST BUTTON, ON THIS ENTIRE SPACECRAFT! IT'S USE HAS BEEN PROHIBITED FOR OVER... DID HE SAY A HUNDRED YEARS OR A THOUSAND

YEARS... IT TAKES EVERYBODY, LIKE, EVERYBODY! EVERYBODY ON AN ENTIRE PLANET - (DERP pauses for effect, then speaks in a very solemn, low whisper) AND SWITCHES THEM. WITH EVERYBODY ELSE... SEE?

CLERP

NO, ACTUALLY, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT... JERP, DID YOU FOLLOW THAT?

JERP

SWITCH EVERYBODY? ON TELEVISION? WE HAVE ONE OF THOSE.

DERP

MAYBE I DIDN'T EXPLAIN IT RIGHT. WHAT DID THAT GUY I BOUGHT IT FROM SAY? IT SWITCHES EVERYBODY! RIGHT. (DERP points at the television monitor, trying to remember, causing the other MARS ZUNS to look, but there is still nothing on the monitor but the blackness of outerspace. They quickly look back at DERP, realizing he was just doing it unconsciously.) OKAY. NOW I REMEMBER. IT TAKES EVERYBODY FROM ONE PLANET, AND, PUTS THEM ON THE OTHER PLANET, ON... ANOTHER PLANET, THAT YOU SELECT YOURSELF.

AND THEN YOU CAN DO ALL THIS OTHER STUFF. BUT THEN! THEY IMPROVED ON IT, IT GOT REALLY POPULAR, SO THEY CAME UP WITH ALL THESE EXTRA THINGS AFTER THEY FIRST STARTED SELLING IT, WAY BACK DURING THE DAYS WHEN, NO WAIT, HE DIDN'T KNOW EXACTLY WHEN THEY FIRST STARTED USING THIS THING. IN FACT, THEY'RE NOT EVEN SURE WHAT PLANET IT STARTED ON. DID YOU KNOW THIS THING WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TIME THAT....

Throughout DERP's explanation, the looks on the faces of the other MARS ZUNS are comical, as they try, with apparently limited brain power, to imagine the implications of every detail of DERP's explanation. They make the transition from a look of confusion to a look of slightly comprehending what they are hearing. Everyone becomes too immersed in thinking about what DERP is describing for DERP to continue. After DERP stops speaking, there is a silence (except for the music on the radio), as the other MARS ZUNS appear lost in thought, conjecturing to themselves on the implications, until finally, one by one, a smile crosses their faces, afterwhich they each nod euphorically.

SWERP

I GET IT, WE SWITCH PLANETS ON 'EM.

Suddenly a look of concern appears on JERP's face.

JERP

WAIT, NOW THEY HAVE TO KNOW WHAT PLANET THIS BUTTON STARTED ON.
THAT'S EVERYTHING, I'M NOT TOUCHING ANY MORE EQUIPMENT FROM ZORP,
REMEMBER THAT COFFEE MACHINE? BEANS FLYING ALL OVER THE ROOM,
RIGHT WHEN WE WERE DOING A MANUAL LAND, I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT!
COULD HAVE KILLED US... THIS BETTER NOT BE FROM ZORP, I'M THRU
WITH ZORP, DERP.

DERP

THIS THING'S AS SAFE AS A - IT'S BEEN IN USE A LONG TIME, A LOT
OF PEOPLE HAVE BEEN USING THESE THINGS. IT IS NOT FROM ZORP, THAT
MUCH, I, CAN GUARANTEE YOU.

JERP

BECAUSE I THINK THOSE ZORPIANS ARE SADISTIC. THAT COFFEE MACHINE?
I'M WILLING TO BET THEY MADE IT THAT WAY ON PURPOSE.

DERP

MAYBE YOU JUST DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO USE IT.

JERP

NOW DERP! WE'VE ALREADY TALKED ABOUT THAT COFFEE MACHINE A TRILLION TIMES, IT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH ME, I -

DERP

DON'T WORRY! I SAID IT'S NOT FROM ZORP, DIDN'T I?

JERP

(Shaking his head skeptically) I DON'T KNOW, THIS SOUNDS A LITTLE BIT TO ME LIKE SOMETHING THEY'D COME UP WITH...

DERP

(Pausing again for effect) AND THEN, WHEN WE SWITCH PLANETS? WHEN WE SWITCH THE PEOPLE FROM ONE PLANET TO ANOTHER, YOU KNOW, WHEN

WE... WELL, THEN, WE LEAVE: ONE PERSON, ONE PERSON ON EACH PLANET, WHO BELONGS THERE. WE LEAVE ONLY ONE PERSON ON EACH PLANET WHO BELONGS THERE! I CAME UP WITH THAT! I FIGURED OUT HOW YOU COULD DO THAT, WITH THIS NEW BUTTON, IF YOU, THE WIRING IS KIND OF TRICKY AT FIRST, BUT I THINK I KNOW HOW TO MAKE IT DO THAT. ISN'T THAT GREAT?

CLERP

(Short pause) WE LEAVE ONE PERSON, ON EACH PLANET, WHO BELONGS THERE. AND THEN EVERYBODY ELSE IS ON THE WRONG PLANET? YOU CAN MAKE THIS THING DO THAT TO SOMEBODY?

JERP

NOW THAT IS REALLY SOMETHING. THE OTHER THING WAS SOMETHING, BUT NOW THAT IS SOMETHING!

DERP

LISTEN, THIS WILL BE OUR BEST ONE YET, RIGHT?

CLERP

NOTH-ING LIKE IT!

JERP and SWERP nod and grin their overwhelming approval.

CLERP

WHAT PLANET ARE WE SWITCHING THE KLUGIANS WITH?

DERP

ONE OF OUR FAVORITES. ONLY, I DON'T THINK YOU'D BE ABLE TO SEE IT YET. (Starting to point from his chair) THAT SPECK OVER... (DERP flies over to the television monitor this time instead of moving his chair there, and puts his dirty Martian finger on the monitor screen.) HERE. THIS ONE.

CLERP

ONE OF OUR FAVORITES? WHAT'S IT CALLED?

DERP

EARTH.

JERP

SO FINALLY WE'RE DOING SOMETHING ON EARTH! THE BIRTHPLACE OF ROCK AND ROLL...

2. Opening credits come over close-up of the television monitor, as Earth and Klug grow larger and larger. We are listening to "There's A Moon Out Tonight". The monitor has the ability to highlight specific images in its field, so that even though other planets and stars are also growing larger, they do not stand out like Klug and Earth.

3. After credits, KLUGIAN FAMILY, human looking except that they have blue skin, are having a picnic on a normal looking hilltop in the countryside, each one frantically engaged in making their sandwich to the exclusion of noticing anything else. Suddenly, when a ketchup bottle is used, out comes ketchup. WRANGERT, the

user of the ketchup bottle, looks shocked and points at the ketchup.

WRANGERT

HOW DID KETCHUP GET IN THIS BOTTLE!

KLUGIAN FAMILY freezes their frantic activity with a bewildered look. There is a pregnant pause. WRANGERT reaches for the mustard jar and looks inside, then darts his eyes at his son, LEVERT. WRANGERT dips a spoon in the jar and holds it up, mustard on it.

WRANGERT

LEVERT?

LEVERT

(Shaking his head innocently) WASN'T ME, DAD.

JORDERT

[Wrangert's daughter](Suddenly) LOOK WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GRASS!
IT'S ALL GREEN INSTEAD OF PURPLE!

KLUGIAN FAMILY looks around themselves in astonishment, first looking far away from themselves, and then noticing the grass immediately around themselves, shocked that it is all green.

WRANGERT

(Whispering) GREEN?

WRANGERT's eyes then, in looking around, suddenly seize again upon the ketchup and mustard containers. WRANGERT looks at LEVERT, only then reminded that just a few short moments before the issue had been the ketchup and the mustard.

LEVERT

(Innocently not understanding) IT WASN'T ME, DAD. (LEVERT looks around at the green grass in astonishment.)

4. A ketchup bottle is lying on its side with mustard pouring out. Next shot reveals that we are watching an EARTH FAMILY having a picnic on a hilltop in the countryside, but the grass is purple. EARTH FAMILY is looking around themselves in shock. Next we see a mustard jar but the lid is on and we are unable to see the color of its contents.

5. Back in the spacecraft, the mustard jar is visible on the monitor.

JERP

NOW THAT'S SOMETHING I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHY THE BUTTON DIDN'T MOVE THE KETCHUP AND MUSTARD TO DIFFERENT PLANETS, BUT DID MOVE THE KETCHUP AND MUSTARD CONTAINERS.

SWERP

I THOUGHT IT DIDN'T MOVE THE KETCHUP AND MUSTARD CONTAINERS TO DIFFERENT PLANETS, BUT DID MOVE THE KETCHUP AND MUSTARD.

CLERP

I BLAME THE GLITCH.

DERP

WE HAVE A GLITCH?

CLERP

I THOUGHT I MENTIONED IT.

SWERP

I DON'T THINK I REMEMBER THAT.

JERP

NO, NEITHER DO I.

DERP

NOT THAT I RECALL.

6. Two Klugian (therefore blue skinned) men, VINKALERT and DOCKERT, are fishing, staring straight into the water and oblivious to everything else.

VINKALERT

(Without looking up) NO FISH IN I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG.

(VINKALERT looks up after speaking, and then appears slightly amazed.) SOMETHING'S STRANGE...

DOCKERT

(After also looking up and then also appearing slightly amazed) YOU'RE RIGHT, VINKALERT. (Both look around but don't seem able to put their finger on it.) WELL... IT'S GETTING LATE, TIME WE WENT BACK! I BET WE'VE BEEN STARING AT THIS WATER HERE LONG ENOUGH TO... COUNT EVERY MOLECULE!

VINKALERT

MAYBE IF MY EYES WERE AS SHARP AS THEY WERE, OH, FIVE YEARS BACK OR SO, THAT'S WHEN I COULD COUNT EVERY MOLECULE. (VINKALERT's expression seems serious. Quick cutaway to DOCKERT's silent laugh indicates this was just a joke, and that VINKALERT was deadpanning, which is reiterated when we cut back to VINKALERT and he abruptly breaks into a smile.) BUT HOW CAN WE LEAVE? WE HAVEN'T EVEN CAUGHT ANYTHING! BUEGERT AND TUXERT WERE STARVING WHEN WE LEFT THEM. I THINK WE SHOULD REMEMBER OUR PROMISE.

DOCKERT

THAT WE WOULDN'T RETURN WITHOUT ANY FISH? WHAT CAN WE DO? STAY HERE FOREVER?

VINKALERT

(Shaking his head) OKAY...

Both reel in their lines. When the hooks come up out of the water, we see that at the end of the hooks a strange creature, the Zulg, which is also from Klug, is being used for bait.

7. Inside the spacecraft, where the Zulgs on the ends of the hooks are being watched on the television monitor by the MARS ZUNS.

JERP

ANOTHER THING I DON'T UNDERSTAND. THE READINGS SAY EVERY OTHER EARTH LIFE FORM SWITCHED OVER TO KLUG EXCEPT THE EARTH FISH.

CLERP

PROBABLY HAS TO DO WITH THAT SAME GLITCH... THIS GLITCH, IT, I DON'T QUITE KNOW HOW TO DESCRIBE IT. I THINK IT STARTED IN THE CENTRAL CHIP REPLACEMENT BANK GENERATOR. ANYWAY, I BLAME THAT FOR EVERYTHING THAT GOES WRONG AROUND HERE. (JERP looks at CLERP not quite knowing how serious he is) THAT AND YOU, JERP!

8. VINKALERT and DOCKERT are walking through the forest they were fishing in, carrying their fishing lines and gear.

DOCKERT

YOU'D ALMOST THINK WE WERE USING THE WRONG BAIT. AND THINGS REALLY DON'T LOOK RIGHT TO ME AROUND HERE. NOTHING LOOKS RIGHT TO ME. ALMOST REMINDS ME OF SOMETHING, I CAN'T... HOLD IT! REMEMBER THE MARS ZUNS, THE STREET GANG FROM MARS? REMEMBER THEM? WHAT THEY DID THAT TIME, THAT WEIRD THING? SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT HERE! (Short pause) AND I BET THEY HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT!

VINKALERT

THE WHO? OH THEM! YOU THINK...

9. Inside the Mars Zuns spacecraft, the MARS ZUNS are watching DOCKERT and VINKALERT and laughing uproariously.

10. On Earth, CLYDE, a twenty-five year old Earth man, is doing some last minute doublechecking before leaving his apartment, as if he might have a few very specific things on his mind. Finally he feels satisfied that he has remembered everything, and goes out the door. CLYDE immediately remembers something else and

goes back inside to get some letters in need of mailing that were on a table. Then CLYDE is waiting for an elevator, finally down the hall from his apartment. The area seems deserted. As CLYDE is waiting, two KLUGIANS walk down the hall looking at paintings in astonishment, noticing that all of them have white skinned humans as subjects. When the two KLUGIANS see CLYDE they stop, while CLYDE looks at them and they look at him. The two KLUGIANS rapidly walk back down the hall the way they came, CLYDE watching. As the elevator doors open, CLYDE, instead of entering, walks rapidly back down the hall to his apartment, unlocking the door rapidly, entering, and locking the door rapidly behind himself.

11. Back on the Mars Zuns spacecraft, the MARS ZUNS are bleary-eyed with laughter. On the television monitor is the door to Clyde's apartment, seen from the outside.

SWERP

(Laughing) THAT - WAS - A GOOD ONE, DERP!

DERP

THAT'S CLYDE, THE EARTHLING I SELECTED AS THE ONLY ONE TO STAY
BEHIND ON EARTH.

CLERP

LET ME PICK THE KLUGIAN WE LEAVE BEHIND ON KLUG!

DERP

TOO LATE. WE ALREADY LEFT BEHIND SOMEONE ON KLUG. A WOMAN I
PICKED. I THINK SHE'LL BE PERFECT - WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE HER.

CLERP

I WISH I COULD HAVE SELECTED THE KLUGIAN.

DERP

I'M SURE YOU'LL LIKE THE ONE I PICKED THE INSTANT YOU SEE HER.

CLERP

OKAY, BUT I JUST WISH I COULD HAVE BEEN THE ONE WHO PICKED THE
KLUGIAN.

DERP

SHE'S JUST THE RIGHT TYPE. HER NAME IS GOSK.

CLERP

(Pacified) GOSK?

JERP

GOSK! HA-HA-HA! I BET SHE'S, I BET SHE'S... JUST LIKE THIS GUY
CLYDE, RIGHT? NO, UH, WAIT, UH, THE EXACT OPPOSITE?

SWERP

DERP PROBABLY PICKED A FEMALE KLUGIAN ANIMAL. RIGHT DERP?

DERP

NO, I WOULDN'T PICK AN ANIMAL! JERP GUESSED IT RIGHT. I PICKED SOMEONE IDENTICAL TO CLYDE - I THINK SHE'S IDENTICAL, ANYWAY.

CLERP

LET'S SEE!

DERP

WELL, I KIND OF WANTED TO SAVE SHOWING HER, FOR WHEN SHE'S DOING SOMETHING. (DERP looks at a tiny monitor on a wrist band) SHE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE SHE'S REALLY DOING ANYTHING. I THINK IT'S THE KLUGIAN EQUIVALENT TO SLEEP. I DON'T KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT THE KLUGIANS BUT I'M PRETTY SURE THAT'S WHAT IT IS. ALTHOUGH! MAYBE SHE'LL CATCH ON TO WHAT HAPPENED THE INSTANT SHE WAKES UP, AND WE DON'T WANT TO RISK MISSING THAT... OKAY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN (AS THE EARTHLINGS SAY IN THE CIRCUS, WHICH IS PROBABLY WHERE THIS KLUGIAN WILL WIND UP!), LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, MAY I PRESENT, THE ONE, THE ONLY, GOSK, THE ONLY KLUGIAN LEFT ON KLUG!

DERP presses a button in his wrist monitor and GOSK comes up on the television monitor of the spacecraft. She is sleeping. The MARS ZUNS light up another droke and watch her with extreme

interest without speaking.

12. On Earth, we are inside CLYDE's apartment again. CLYDE is in his living room, sitting on a sofa, in basically the same frame of mind as when we last saw him (confusion, timidity, fear, etc.). Suddenly his face shows inner resolve. He stands up, picks up the letters in need of mailing again, boldly leaves the apartment, boldly locks the door, goes to the elevator, presses the button and waits. While waiting, his inner resolve seems to wane, then suddenly vanishes, causing him to stride back to his apartment before the elevator arrives. A moment after CLYDE locks himself inside, the sound of the elevator bell, signalling its arrival on that floor, is heard. When the elevator doors open we see that on the elevator are KLUGIANS, packed together more tightly than in the scene from "A Night At The Opera", some falling out of the elevator the instant the doors open. Typical elevator music is playing. In his living room, sitting on the sofa, CLYDE's expression indicates he heard some kind of sound. He hesitates a moment, listening acutely, and then returns to basically the same frame of mind as when we rejoined him here a few minutes previously (confusion, timidity, fear, etc.).

13. Back at the elevator, the KLUGIANS are being ushered back in by a Klugian named LERT.

LERT

EVERYBODY BACK IN, COME ON.

MERT

WHAT FOR? WHAT'S IN THE ELEVATOR? NOTHING!

LERT

WE'RE NOT TAKING ANY CHANCES. WE'RE STAYING IN THE ELEVATOR UNTIL EVERYTHING IS BACK TO NORMAL.

MERT

THEN KEEP YOUR FINGER ON THE DOOR CLOSE BUTTON. I'M GETTING TIRED OF EVERYBODY PILING OUT OF THE ELEVATOR ONTO ME EVERY TIME THE DOORS OPEN, JUST BECAUSE I'M IN THE FRONT.

LERT

I WAS PRESSING THE DOOR CLOSE BUTTON. IT DOESN'T ALWAYS SEEM TO CONTROL IT. I HAD THOUGHT THE ONLY TIME THE DOOR CLOSE BUTTON DOESN'T WORK IS WHEN WE COME TO A FLOOR WHERE SOMEONE RINGS FOR THE ELEVATOR...

MERT

WE SHOULD PUT SIGNS UP NOT TO RING FOR THE ELEVATOR. BESIDES, IT'S ALREADY WAY TOO CROWDED IN HERE. (The KLUGIANS enthusiastically mumble their agreement.) AND WHY DO I HAVE TO STAND IN THE FRONT? (The KLUGIANS immediately mumble an excuse.) THERE'S GOT TO BE A SOLUTION... MAYBE IF WE ALL PRESS THE DOOR CLOSE BUTTON, IN SHIFTS... (The KLUGIANS immediately mumble another excuse.) (Short pause) THE ELEVATOR MUSIC ISN'T BAD THOUGH. (The KLUGIANS enthusiastically mumble their agreement.)

14. VINKALERT and DOCKERT are still walking through the forest. THE MARS ZUNS are watching them on the television monitor. Suddenly the visor on SWERP's motorcycle helmet slides down over SWERP's face, flinging the droke out of SWERP's mouth. The MARS ZUNS become involved in retrieving it from the control panel it

landed on. Like a ball in a pinball machine, there seem to be various complex grooves that the droke (rapidly) rolls along. THE MARS ZUNS watch it as it rolls, occasionally reaching out a hand to try and catch it, which requires predicting where it is going, but like trying to catch a swimming fish with your hand, they are not quite able to follow it.

DERP

SWERP, I DON'T THINK THAT'S A VERY GOOD VISOR YOU HAVE ON YOUR MOTORCYCLE HELMET.

JERP

PROBABLY FROM ZORP. (JERP moves the visor up and down while the helmet is still on SWERP's head.)

The MARS ZUNS all continue watching the droke bounce around, but after a short while JERP resumes watching the television monitor. Outside the spacecraft a strange glitch ray is being emitted. Back inside the spacecraft, JERP is watching the monitor when suddenly VINKALERT is zapped by the strange glitch ray, vanishing, much to the surprise of DOCKERT and JERP.

JERP

UH, CLERP?

CLERP

(Still trying to retrieve the droke, as are the others except for JERP) YEAH?

JERP

THAT GLITCH YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT BEFORE. WHAT'S THE WORST THING IT EVER DID?

CLERP

(As we still watch droke roll through panel like a ball in a pinball machine.) OKAY, THE WORST THING IT EVER - OH YEAH, REMEMBER THAT TIME WE WERE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHO SPILLED THE ORANGE JUICE AND MADE THE XRRT3 CONTROL PANEL ALL STICKY? IT WAS THE GLITCH. (Visualization) IT GOT INTO THE CENTRAL LIMB MANUFACTURING GENERATOR AND FABRICATED A METAL ARM IN THE PAPER TOWEL DISPENSER. IT WAS THAT METAL ARM THAT WALKED OVER TO THE XRRT3 CONTROL PANEL AND SPILLED THE ORANGE JUICE. ACTUALLY, IT

WAS TRYING TO BRING IT OVER TO YOU, JERP. (End of visualization)

JERP

I DON'T REMEMBER EVER ASKING A METAL ARM TO -

CLERP

NO, I TOLD YOU, IT WAS ALL BECAUSE OF THE GLITCH. IT WASN'T BRINGING YOU THE ORANGE JUICE BECAUSE YOU REQUESTED IT! THE GLITCH DID THE WHOLE THING. IT MADE THE METAL ARM IN THE FIRST PLACE. IT MADE THE METAL ARM WALK OVER TO -

JERP

OKAY, OKAY. DID YOU FIND THAT THING YET?

SWERP

ALMOST, I THINK. MAYBE. DERP, WHERE'S THAT THING YOU BOUGHT FOR LOCATING IT WHENEVER WE LOSE IT?

DERP

WE DON'T REALLY NEED THAT, DO WE?

SWERP

I DON'T KNOW... DO YOU SEE IT, CLERP?

DERP

OKAY, THEN EVERYBODY HAS TO HELP ME FIND THE THING THAT LOCATES IT.

15. JERP continues watching the monitor while the others help DERP. DOCKERT, on the monitor, is visibly baffled by VINKALERT suddenly vanishing into thin air.

DOCKERT

WHAT COULD HAVE - AS IF I DON'T KNOW...

DOCKERT thinks on that a moment, shakes his head cynically, and continues through the forest, now by himself.

On Klug, where everything is slightly different, especially colors. An EARTH STRING QUARTET is playing in a clearing in a forest. They seem oblivious to the change in their environment. The same strange glitch ray suddenly starts emitting from the Mars Zuns spacecraft again, zapping them to Earth, where they are in a different clearing in a different forest. They continue playing, oblivious to anything but the music. DOCKERT is walking through the forest when he sees them. By now he has become so cynical that as soon as he catches sight of them (although he remains hidden by the brush) instead of seeming very surprised he just shakes his head cynically all the more, hardly pausing as he continues through the forest.

16. On the spacecraft, the other MARS ZUNS are returning to their places by the monitor.

JERP

DID YOU FIND IT?

DERP

FIND IT? WE FOUND EIGHTEEN, SOME DATING BACK THREE YEARS,
ACCORDING TO THE ANALYZER!

JERP

GREAT! WAIT, YOU DIDN'T FIND THAT ONE FROM SPLONGE, DID YOU?

CLERP

YOU GUESSED IT! AND THAT'S NOT ALL. REMEMBER THE ONE FROM WHEN WE
BANGED INTO THAT PARKED KLUGIAN CAR, THE ONE SWERP DROPPED THAT
TIME? WHEN THAT STUPID VISOR ON HIS MOTORCYCLE HELMET SLID DOWN
AGAIN, FLINGING THAT AMAZING DROKE, OUT OF HIS MOUTH, THROUGH THE
AIR -

DERP

THAT'S HOW WE LOST ALL OF THEM. (DERP moves the visor on SWERP's
motorcycle helmet up and down, as JERP had done before.)

CLERP

HEY, WAIT A MINUTE, WEREN'T THERE TWO OF THEM WALKING THROUGH THE FOREST?

JERP

YEAH, ONE OF THEM GOT ZAPPED AWAY, I'M NOT SURE WHERE.

SWERP

HOW'D THAT...?

JERP

I THINK IT WAS THE GLITCH.

CLERP

OH YEAH, THAT. PROBABLY WAS.

17. The EARTH STRING QUARTET in the clearing continues playing. Two female Klugians, BUEGERT and TUXERT, are now watching them, hidden by the brush, ecstatic with fascination, looking at each other and barely able to suppress their delight. They mime to each other like they're playing the instruments. DOCKERT approaches.

DOCKERT

WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING HERE?

TUXERT

LOOK! (She tries to draw DOCKERT's attention to the EARTH STRING QUARTET.)

DOCKERT

I SAW THEM ALREADY.

BUEGERT

ISN'T THAT THE MOST AMAZING - WHERE'S VINKALERT?

DOCKERT

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT HAPPENED TO VINKALERT. THAT LOUSY STREET GANG FROM MARS, THE MARS ZUNS, THEY ZAPPED HIM AWAY, WHO KNOWS WHERE.

TUXERT

DOCKERT, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

DOCKERT

HAVEN'T YOU NOTICED THE WAY EVERYTHING'S DIFFERENT?

BUEGERT

WELL... YES WE DID, IN FACT THE CAMPSITE VANISHED! WE THINK. DO YOU UNDERSTAND ALL THIS? IT LOOKS LIKE AUTUMN CAME EARLY THIS YEAR, OR SOMETHING, THE WAY EVERYTHING'S CHANGED COLOR... BUT OTHER THINGS ARE DIFFERENT TOO... (Short pause) VINKALERT'S HIDING SOMEWHERE, RIGHT?

DOCKERT

IT'S NOT THE SEASONS CHANGING! IT'S THE MARS ZUNS! THE STREET GANG FROM MARS! BUEGERT, REMEMBER THAT TIME, WE WERE IN OUR CAR, WHEN IT WAS PARKED OVER ON SLIMP STREET WHILE WE WERE WAITING FOR VINKALERT TO MAIL A LETTER, AND THAT CRAZY THING, THAT SPACECRAFT, SUDDENLY, BANGED INTO US AND THEN FLEW AWAY?

BUEGERT

THAT? I ADMIT IT DID LOOK A LITTLE LIKE A SPACECRAFT - BUT I NEVER REALLY THOUGHT WE AGREED THAT THAT WAS WHAT IT ACTUALLY WAS... OKAY, VINKALERT! LET ME SEE YOU!

DOCKERT

BUT IT FLEW AWAY! REMEMBER? AND THEN AFTER THAT I BOUGHT A COPY OF THE NATION'S ENQUIRER, AND IT HAD THAT ARTICLE ABOUT PEOPLE BEING ABDUCTED TO ANOTHER SOLAR SYSTEM, BY THE MARS ZUNS, THE STREET GANG FROM MARS! (Noticing BUEGERT's disbelief) WHERE THEY HAD TO WEAR CLOTHES THAT WERE... INTENDED FOR A DIFFERENT SPECIES...

BUEGERT

AND PROBABLY OUT OF FASHION TOO! DOCKERT, NOBODY BELIEVES THOSE STORIES THEY PRINT IN THE NATION'S ENQUIRER.

DOCKERT

WELL, I DO. AND THAT'S WHO BANGED INTO OUR CAR AND THEN FLEW AWAY. AND THERE WERE LOTS OF OTHER TERRIBLE THINGS THEY DID, ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE. YOU KNOW IT COST ME \$200 DOLLARS TO GET MY CAR FIXED AFTER THAT. I NEVER FORGOT IT - AND THAT'S WHOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THIS!

TUXERT

DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE BEING JUST A LITTLE BIT RIDICULOUS?

DOCKERT

AND MY GUESS IS THAT THIS TIME, THEY ZAPPED EVERYBODY FROM KLUG ONTO SOME OTHER PLANET, AND THAT'S WHERE WE ARE NOW, AND THAT ALL THE INHABITANTS OF THAT OTHER PLANET ARE ON OUR PLANET RIGHT NOW, IN OUR VERY HOMES... PROBABLY MESSING EVERYTHING AROUND. AND I

BET THEY ZAPPED VINKALERT OFF SOMEWHERE TOO! HE WAS RIGHT NEXT TO ME AND THEN - POOF!

BUEGERT

DOCKERT!

DOCKERT

LOOK AROUND! EVERYTHING'S THE WRONG COLOR! LOOK AT THAT STRING QUARTET! THEY'RE NOT KLUGIANS! LOOK AT THOSE INSTRUMENTS!

BUEGERT

(TO TUXERT) AREN'T THEY THE MOST UNBELIEVABLE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS YOU EVER SAW?

DOCKERT

BUEGERT, YOU ARE MISSING THE POINT! IT'S THE WORK OF THE STREET GANG FROM MARS. ONLY YOU WON'T KNOW UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE!

18. On the spacecraft, DERP is watching them.

DERP

(Shaking his head) THAT SHOULDN'T HAPPEN. THE GLITCH SHOULDN'T BE MAKING PEOPLE VANISH.

SWERP

IT PROBABLY JUST ZAPPED HIM BACK TO KLUG. I BET IT ISN'T THAT BAD A GLITCH.

CLERP

I'LL ZERO IN ON VINKALERT'S VIBRATION MANUALLY. I GUESS FIRST I'LL SEE IF IT'S ANYWHERE ON KLUG. (CLERP operates a beat-up looking piece of equipment, wearing headphones, appearing to be moving his head with music.) GETTING A LOT OF STRANGE VIBRATIONS, WAIT - THERE HE IS, NO, THAT'S A... VINCENT SOMEBODY...

JERP

WE'RE LOOKING FOR VINKALERT, NOT VINCENT.

CLERP

(Momentarily pausing from tuning the dial on the equipment) IT DOES EVERYTHING ALPHABETICALLY. DON'T WORRY, IT'S GETTING THERE... (Apparently getting into the "station" he's stopped at) YOU KNOW, IT'S REALLY SOMETHING, THIS VINCENT GUY, HE'S SOME ARTIST WHOSE BEEN DEAD FOR, YEARS, BUT HIS VIBRATION, JUST IN TERMS OF THE EFFECT IT HAS ON LIVING EARTH PEOPLE -

JERP

VINKALERT, NOT VINCENT!

CLERP

RIGHT. (CLERP resumes tuning the dial) OKAY, THERE'S VINKALERT. (As an aside to DERP) THIS EVEN TELLS ME THIS VINKALERT HAS NEVER PAINTED ANYTHING IN HIS ENTIRE LIFE. NOW, JUST HAVE TO TURN A FEW MORE KNOBS AND... (Announcing) THERE YOU HAVE VINKALERT.

DERP

(Watching VINKALERT in a row boat in the middle of a quiet lake on Klug) LOOK, IT PUT HIM IN A ROW BOAT. EXACTLY WHERE A - PERSON CAN FISH. I GUESS IT WASN'T SUCH A BAD GLITCH AFTER ALL.

CLERP

YEAH, BUT WHERE'S HIS FISHING ROD?

Cut away to a fishing rod and gear on an airport baggage conveyor belt.

DERP

LET ME SEE, I DON'T THINK THE ZORPIANS SAID WHAT TO DO IF A GLITCH SHOULD...

JERP

THE ZORPIANS?

DERP

OKAY, I BOUGHT IT FROM SOME ZORPIANS! BUT IT DOESN'T COME FROM ZORP. THEY SAID THIS BUTTON... MIGHT HAVE STARTED OUT ANYWHERE. THEY SAID -

JERP

THEY SAID! DON'T YOU REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED WITH THE COFFEE BEAN GRINDER? BEANS, ALL OVER THE PLACE.

DERP

DID YOU READ THE INSTRUCTIONS!

JERP

YES! IT WAS THE ZORPIANS, THEY DELIBERATELY -

DERP

I BET YOU JUST DIDN'T READ THE INSTRUCTIONS AND NOW YOU'RE

BLAMING EVERYTHING ON THE ZORPIANS. I STILL THINK IT'S THE BEST
BUTTON WE EVER HAD.

JERP

WE DO ONE WHERE THERE'S ONLY SUPPOSED TO BE ONE KLUGIAN ON KLUG
SURROUNDED BY EVERYBODY FROM EARTH, AND INSTEAD THERE ARE TWO
KLUGIANS. DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NOW? BECAUSE I
DON'T.

SWERP

I HADN'T EVEN FINISHED FIGURING OUT WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN ON
KLUG WITH ONLY ONE KLUGIAN SURROUNDED BY EVERYBODY FROM EARTH.

CLERP

NEITHER HAD I.

DERP

OKAY, SO EVERYTHING'S NOT GOING PERFECTLY. CLERP, YOU YOURSELF

SAID YOU BLAMED THE GLITCH FOR EVERYTHING. IS IT FAIR THAT THE
POOR ZORPIANS GET BLAMED FOR EVERYTHING THE GLITCH DOES?

JERP

I KNOW IT WAS THE ZORPIANS! ALL OF THEIR APPLIANCES HAVE SOME
KIND OF INSIDIOUS DEFECT, NOT JUST THE COFFEE BEEN GRINDER. DID
YOU EVER TRY TO USE A ZORPIAN CAN OPENER?

DERP

OKAY, LET'S JUST SAY YOU'RE RIGHT FOR A MINUTE, THE ZORPIANS MAKE
BAD OUTERSPACE EQUIPMENT.

JERP

ANY KIND OF EQUIPMENT. I KNEW SOMEBODY WHO HAD A ZORPIAN LAWN
WATER SPRINKLER, ONLY, WHEN MARTIAN WATER GOES THROUGH IT -

DERP

OKAY, LET'S SUPPOSE THE ZORPIANS MAKE BAD EQUIPMENT, ANY KIND OF

EQUIPMENT THEY MAKE. (JERP nods his head, finally satisfied) WHEN THIS IS OVER, WITH THE NEW BUTTON, EVERYBODY SWITCHED AROUND AND EVERYTHING, WHEN THIS IS ALL OVER, I'LL ACCESS SOME FILES ON ZORP MANUFACTURING REGULATIONS. AND IF WE FIND ANYTHING IN THERE THAT WE DON'T LIKE, ANYTHING... WE'LL... (Short pause) RETURN THE COFFEE BEAN GRINDER.

JERP

FAIR ENOUGH.

DERP

ALTHOUGH I THINK YOU JUST NEEDED TO READ THE INSTRUCTIONS.

CLERP

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT VINKALERT?

DERP

DOES IT CHANGE THINGS THAT MUCH? WE STILL PRETTY MUCH KNOW WHAT'S

GOING TO HAPPEN.

The other MARS ZUNS think for a moment, somewhat confused, and then nod their heads, too timid to express their confusion. CLERP still seems to be thinking about something.

CLERP

DOESN'T THE BUTTON HAVE A FEATURE WHERE WE CAN JUST ZAP HIM BACK?

DERP

IT ISN'T QUITE THAT SIMPLE. THIS... USED TO BE USED BY THE MILITARY, AND... THE LAST TIME THEY UPDATED IT...

The other MARS ZUNS all whisper "The military" excitedly.

DERP

SO, NOW, IN ORDER TO SWITCH SOMEBODY BACK, FROM WHAT I CAN TELL, AFTER THEY'VE BEEN SWITCHED AWAY, YOU, KIND OF HAVE TO BE ABLE TO

PROGRAM "MILITARY TRANSFER ORDERS", BUT HERE'S THE TRICKY PART, "RESCINDED AFTER ENACTMENT", I HAVE TO RESCIND EVERYBODY'S MILITARY TRANSFER ORDER, WHEN I WANT TO SWITCH EVERYBODY BACK, SEE? OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT, I HAVE TO PROGRAM THAT INTO IT, WHICH... I DON'T QUITE KNOW HOW TO DO - AT THIS POINT.

CLERP

WE'LL HAVE TO WORK ON THAT IF WE WANT TO SWITCH EVERYBODY BACK TO THE PLANET THEY STARTED ON.

DERP

YOU SAID IT. I'VE BEEN PLANNING TO DO A SEARCH FOR RECORDS ON "ANCIENT MILITARY, OFFICIAL FORMS USED". PROBABLY, WE CAN GET EVERYBODY THEIR MILITARY TRANSFERS THAT WAY. TOO BAD THE ZORPIAN WHO SOLD IT TO ME ONLY HAD THE OFFICIAL FORM FOR INITIAL TRANSFERS. (JERP nods his head in a mildly sarcastic "I told you so" manner. DERP, noticing JERP, begins to sound like he is rationalizing.) WELL, HE SAID HE RAN OUT. NOBODY EVER ASKS FOR THOSE, SO HE STOPPED SELLING THEM.

JERP

JUST STOPPED.

DERP

THE OTHER POSSIBILITY IS THAT I COULD INSTRUCT IT TO... BELIEVE THAT EVERYBODY ON EARTH HAS GONE "AWOL". BUT I THINK IT PUNISHES THEM FOR THAT BEFORE IT BRINGS THEM BACK. OR MAYBE THAT WAS AFTER IT BRINGS THEM BACK... DON'T WORRY, I'LL IMPROVISE SOMETHING.

CLERP

AWOL?

Throughout this conversation the MARS ZUNS have been resting their eyes on the image of VINKALERT on the monitor. VINKALERT started out looking for a paddle, then tried paddling the row boat with his hands, and finally jumped in the lake and started swimming to shore. These proceedings only seem to mildly interest the MARS ZUNS as they speak. Finally VINKALERT makes it to shore.

DERP

SEE? VINKALERT'S DOING FINE. SO HIS BAGGAGE GOT LOST.

19. All of a sudden the rays of the glitch focus on the MARS
ZUNS, and an instant later they are all sitting in the same row
boat VINKALERT vacated.

SWERP

DID YOU SEE THAT? IT SWITCHED US!

CLERP

(Looking around) RIGHT INTO VINKALERT'S ROW BOAT. THIS... THIS IS
REALLY GOING TO MESS THINGS UP.

JERP

TELL ME. WHAT HAVE I BEEN SAYING?

CLERP

THIS IS REALLY TERRIBLE.

SWERP

(Pause) DERP? WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO THE SPACECRAFT WITHOUT US
IN IT?

DERP

(Smiling a little nervously, talking rapidly) WELL, THAT'S ONE
THING WE AREN'T GOING TO HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT! JUST IN CASE,
BEFORE WE STARTED THIS ONE? I PICKED OUT A PARKING SPACE ON KLUG
FOR THE SPACECRAFT TO AUTOMATICALLY LAND IN IN CASE NO MANUAL
ORDERS CAME IN AFTER THIRTY - NO WAS IT FIFTY? AFTER FIFTY HOURS.
IT'S A REALLY BEAUTIFUL PARKING SPACE, NEAR SOME GREAT SHOPS,
WELL, BUT WE WON'T BE SHOPPING THERE, WILL WE? ANYWAY, I PICKED
IT OUT VERY CAREFULLY.

JERP

AS CAREFULLY AS YOU PICKED THIS BUTTON? THIS GROTESQUE ZORPIAN
BUTTON, THIS -

CLERP

COULD HAVE BEEN THE GLITCH.

JERP gives CLERP an extremely aggravated look, but CLERP is undaunted.

DERP

(DERP speaks in a rambling way as the other MARS ZUNS look around helplessly. Camera pulls further and further away until the row boat is a speck by the time DERP finishes speaking.) OUR PARKING SPACE IS IN A KLUGIAN CITY THAT'S, WELL, THE EQUIVALENT OF THE AMERICAN EARTH CITY, NEW YORK, THAT IS, EXCEPT FOR THE FACT THAT THERE ARE A FEW PARKING SPACES THERE. I WISH I KNEW MORE ABOUT HOW THE WHOLE PARKING SPACE THING WORKS THOUGH... IT WAS THE ONLY ONE I COULD FIND AFTER HOURS OF SCANNING - AND I WAS USING THE EXPENSIVE SCANNER. I JUST HOPE NO ONE'S TAKEN THE PARKING SPACE - IS THERE A WAY TO RESERVE A PARKING SPACE? I MEANT TO LOOK INTO THAT, NOT THAT I EXPECTED IT WOULD EVER COME TO THIS...

FADE OUT.

20. FADE IN. The words "FIFTY HOURS LATER" appear at the bottom of the screen. We are on Klug, looking at a closed balcony door from the outside. The volume on the sound of a murmuring crowd gradually grows louder, at the same time that the people in the crowd gradually speak louder, shouting out "Gosk!", at first sporadically but then in a more unified way. Finally the balcony doors open, as the crowd instantly becomes silent. We now see the crowd, composed entirely of people from Earth, watching with baited breath. Everyone seems somewhat ragged, as if they haven't shaved, washed, or changed their clothes in days. [And henceforth, whenever people (either from Klug or Earth) are seen they are in this state unless otherwise noted. GOSK is an exception.] Apparently in response to seeing someone, the entire crowd now chants in one voice.

EARTH CROWD

GOSK! GOSK! GOSK!

Throughout the crowd there are people shouting out at random things like "Refrigerator!", "Vacuum Cleaner!", "Can Opener!" Suddenly the crowd completely hushes itself into silence.

GOSK

(Standing on the balcony, looking perfectly elegant, composed, and dignified) HELLO, EVERYBODY OF EARTH! THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING! (GOSK searches her mind a moment for what to say next) YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE. (Suddenly trying to do a Humphrey Bogart impression for no known reason) PLAY IT SAM, YOU PLAYED IT FOR HER... UM, TODAY, WE WILL LEARN ABOUT....

The moment she pauses, people shout out the names of random household items again.

GOSK

REFRIGERATORS! MOST OF YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT REFRIGERATORS. I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT, WHERE YOU ALL COME FROM, EARTH - (Crowd immediately cheers wildly at the word "Earth") EARTH - (Crowd cheers wildly again) ON EARTH, YOUR REFRIGERATORS ARE USUALLY WHITE AND PLACED IN YOUR KITCHENS. NOW I WILL TELL YOU WHAT A REFRIGERATOR IS ON KLUG. ON KLUG, REFRIGERATORS LOOK EXACTLY LIKE THE THING THAT YOU CALL A - (Pregnant pause) WAIT A MINUTE. (GOSK exits balcony for a moment. During her absence crowd murmurs, amidst a few random chants of "Refrigerator! Refrigerator!". Inside the room connected to the balcony, GOSK is conferring with FOUR EARTH BUSINESS PEOPLE (three businessmen and one

businesswoman, all of whom are clean and neatly groomed, as opposed to looking ragged like everybody else). They are explaining something to her and she nods her head. Then she speaks, they respond, she reacts in mild surprise. GOSK returns to the balcony.

GOSK

(After crowd immediately hushes its renewed chant of "Gosk!")
SOFA, THE REFRIGERATORS ARE THE SOFAS. (Crowd cheers in ecstasy.)
YOU'LL FIND - (She waits until crowd quiets down, which occurs the instant after GOSK interrupts herself to wait for them.)
YOU'LL FIND FOOD IN YOUR SOFAS. AND, THE LIGHTBULB IN THE REFRIGERATOR STAYS OFF WHEN THE SOFA IS CLOSED. SEE YOU ALL TOMORROW! AND.... HAVE... A... NICE... DAY! HAVE A NICE DAY! GOODBYE, EVERYBODY!

The crowd shouts back, "Goodbye, Gosk!", then murmurs the word, "Sofa" over and over, as if wisdom has just been spoken, while disbanding. A few random people stay behind, still yelling "Refrigerator!" and the names of other appliances and things, including a MAN yelling "Ketchup!", to which a WOMAN in the crowd yells back, "They keep it in the mustard jar!". The MAN and the WOMAN look at each other, love in their eyes. The balcony is now empty.

FADE OUT.

21. FADE IN. The MARS ZUNS' spacecraft comes out of the sky in a Klugian city crowded with EARTHLINGS. It lands directly on top of a car, flattening it so that the car can't be seen. Nobody seems to notice. 50's rock and roll music can be faintly heard through the walls of the spacecraft.

The scene on the street is extremely unusual. People are occupying the street and sidewalk like they're in a marketplace, but instead of selling or buying anything, they're holding up signs on which are written the names of things they wish to learn the Klugian equivalent of. They also ask or shout out the word on their cards to everybody who walks by. People walking by see people requesting information on something they're interested in, so that occasionally small crowds gather around people holding up certain words (especially electric can opener). Occasionally someone supplies an answer, which is met with different reactions depending on the word, ranging from looks of extreme skepticism to pious appreciation. The person whose question has been answered usually thinks about it, nods, and crosses the word out from their card, thinks another moment, and writes a new word which they then proceed to ask or shout about. The small crowds that had gathered around them for the other word either disbands

upon learning the new word the person with the card now wants, or increases. Some people are inspired to begin their own card, adding to the noise as well. Some people instantly attract crowds this way, as certain people emerge as being very good at coming up with words in need of Klugian equivalents, receiving small rounds of applause when they come up with a new word. Some people can't believe the answers they receive, even when they receive the same answer repeatedly, and give the person supplying the answer a hostile look or comment, while continuing to repeat the word. A man, HARRIS, is standing in front of the parking space now occupied by the Mars Zuns' spacecraft, holding up a card that reads, "TUTTI FRUTTI", and says, very quietly, totally ignored by everyone, "Tutti frutti? Tutti frutti? Nobody knows what tutti frutti is? Nobody? Doesn't anybody know what tutti frutti is? I'd like to find out what the Klugian equivalent is for tutti frutti, could someone please help me?" Everyone around him is asking about something somewhat more substantial. HARRIS suddenly notices the faint sound of 50's rock and roll music coming from the spacecraft behind him, scrutinizes it a moment, and changes his card to "SPACECRAFT ON TOP OF FLATTENED AUTOMOBILE". He now says, still very quietly and at first totally ignored by everyone, "Spacecraft on top of flattened automobile? Spacecraft on top of flattened automobile?" Gradually HARRIS speaks with more conviction, until people walking by begin to glance at him with a hint of curiosity. Then, noticing the faint sound of 50's rock and roll music, they

gradually stop and see what he is referring to, forming a small crowd.

22. Back at the lake, the MARS ZUNS are still in the row boat.

JERP

(After a while) WE'VE BEEN HERE A PRETTY LONG TIME.

DERP

NEVER THOUGHT I'D WISH I COULD SWIM.

CLERP

THEY ALWAYS TAUGHT US ALL HOW BAD IT WAS TO SWIM.

SWERP

MY GRANDFATHER TOLD ME THE ANCIENT MARTIANS HATED SWIMMING SO

MUCH THEY DEVELOPED SCIENCE JUST SO THAT THEY COULD DRY UP THE CANALS OF MARS. FOR TWO HUNDRED YEARS AFTER THAT, MARTIANS WOULDN'T EVEN WALK IN THE DRIED UP CANALS, UNTIL WAITING AT LEAST TWENTY MINUTES AFTER FINISHING A MEAL.

DERP

WOULDN'T MIND KNOWING HOW TO SWIM NOW.

The other MARS ZUNS mutter "Me neither."

DERP

(After a while) I DON'T SUPPOSE YOUR GRANDFATHER TOLD YOU ABOUT ANYTHING WE COULD DO TO DRY UP THIS LAKE, DID HE?

SWERP

NO.

The other MARS ZUNS look around helplessly.

DERP

(Almost to himself) THAT'S THE NEXT BUTTON I BUY...

23. Back on Klug, EARTH PEOPLE, curious, are finding a way to open the doors of the spacecraft, out of which blares 50's rock and roll music. They are gradually climbing into the spacecraft, pointing, and experimenting with the buttons, while HARRIS continues holding up the sign and repeating what it says. A man walking by, MR. PEABODY, noticing the other people climbing into the spacecraft, addresses himself to HARRIS.

MR. PEABODY

WHAT'S THIS?

HARRIS

(Pointing at his card in response) BY THE WAY, DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE KLUGIAN EQUIVALENT FOR TUTTI FRUTTI IS?

MR. PEABODY gives HARRIS a "You can't be serious?" look and joins EVERYBODY climbing into the spacecraft. Even though the spacecraft only takes up one parking space, it holds a large number of people, due to its vertical design. Inside the spacecraft everybody is examining everything. Every so often someone very daringly presses a button, which always causes the spacecraft to start flashing some colored lights, make some sound and start some machine, which causes everybody in the spacecraft to murmur their surprise.

MR. PEABODY

GET BACK, EVERYBODY, NOBODY TOUCH ANYTHING!

CLARA

(Skeptically) WHO ARE YOU?

MR. PEABODY

I HAPPEN TO BE AN AIRPLANE PILOT (EVERYBODY on the spacecraft murmurs their amazement), AND I'M WILLING TO BET I'M THE ONLY AIRPLANE PILOT HERE! (EVERYBODY murmurs their agreement) NOW,

NOBODY TOUCH ANY OF THOSE BUTTONS!

EVERYBODY takes a step back from the buttons, which are everywhere, causing some people to have to take a slight step forward after taking a step backward.

MR. PEABODY

(Looking around at all the buttons as he speaks) NOW, I'M GOING TO TRY A FEW BUTTONS. YOU CAN ALL SEE THAT THIS IS SOME SPACECRAFT FROM OUTERSPACE, RIGHT? OKAY, NOW, I DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN. IF YOU WANT TO LEAVE THE SPACECRAFT NOW'S THE TIME, BECAUSE I CAN'T SAY I WON'T JUST... ACCIDENTALLY HIT THE WRONG BUTTON, SENDING US ALL INTO OUTERSPACE FOR EVER AND EVER! (People start leaving the overcrowded spacecraft) OF COURSE, I'M NOT SAYING THAT'S WHAT WILL HAPPEN, BUT IF YOU WANT TO, PLAY IT SAFE, IF, YOU FEEL THAT YOU NEED TO MAKE ABSOLUTELY SURE THAT WON'T HAPPEN TO YOU... NOT THAT I EXPECT IT WOULD IF YOU STAYED ON THE SPACECRAFT, BUT IF YOU NEED TO MAKE ABSOLUTELY SURE THAT YOU WON'T WIND UP IN OUTERSPACE FOR EVER AND EVER, OR YOU KNOW WHAT ELSE COULD HAPPEN, THIS THING COULD BE DESIGNED SO THAT... BECAUSE THAT BUTTON THERE LOOKS... PRETTY SCARY. I ONCE SAW... DOES ANYBODY KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS SPACECRAFT FROM ANOTHER PLANET? I THINK MAYBE I'D LIKE TO STUDY THIS THING IN THE LIBRARY

FOR A WHILE, I THINK I SAW AN ARTICLE THERE ABOUT OUTERSPACE PEOPLE...

MR. PEABODY joins EVERYBODY leaving the spacecraft until their are only two people, JONES and WALTERS, left in the spacecraft. The very instant that the last person leaving leaves, WALTERS chances upon a button that closes the doors of the spacecraft and sends it into outerspace. EVERYBODY who left the spacecraft watches it disappear into the sky while nobody else on the street notices it. EVERYBODY disbands after watching it disappear into the sky. HARRIS changes his sign back to "Tutti Frutti".

24. The words "FIFTY HOURS EARLIER" appear on the screen as we see VINKALERT climbing out of the lake. He pauses for a moment, looks around, and then immediately seems to have his bearings. He walks through the woods, momentarily seeming to be in the midst of the unpioneered wilderness, but then a moment later he comes to a small parking lot. He goes to a car, takes his keys out of his pocket, puts the car key in a lock that appears to be in the hood of the car, gets in, starts the car up (producing a very strange Klugian car sound momentarily), and drives away. In the car VINKALERT is frustrated by the fact that the radio isn't picking up anything. Along the road no cars are moving, while many cars are smashed into eachother and the guard rail. No one

is in any of the cars. VINKALERT is at first able to steer through this obstacle course, but he is too preoccupied with trying (unsuccessfully) to tune in a radio station to notice that things are particularly different. He goes up and down the dial faster and faster.

VINKALERT

(Muttering to himself above the radio static) I'M BEGINNING TO BELIEVE DOCKERT WAS RIGHT. ONLY A STREET GANG FROM MARS COULD DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS... AND SUDDENLY LANDING IN THAT ROW BOAT WAS PRETTY STRANGE... I'LL CALL BUEGERT UP AS SOON AS I GET HOME - SHE WAS THERE THAT TIME THEY BANGED INTO THE CAR WHILE I WAS MAILING A LETTER. HOLD IT, SHE'S BACK AT THE CAMPSITE WITH TUXERT, I SHOULD, OR WAIT, DOCKERT AND I WERE ON A DIFFERENT PLANET! THAT'S PROBABLY WHAT HAPPENED, THAT'S IT. THAT STREET GANG FROM MARS DOCKERT'S ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT: THEY DO EXIST; AND THEY SWITCHED PLANETS ON EVERYBODY! (VINKALERT notices for the first time that the road situation isn't normal. He nods his head at this as if this confirms what he was saying.) BUT THAT DOESN'T EXPLAIN WHY I'M HERE IF, UNLESS THEY DIDN'T JUST SWITCH PLANETS ON EVERYBODY... I SURE WISH I KNEW WHAT THAT STREET GANG FROM MARS WAS UP TO.

25. Cut to the MARS ZUNS sitting in the row boat. A bird does something on SWERP's helmet. The other MARS ZUNS immediately stare at it in terror, causing SWERP to become scared.

DERP

(Relieved) GOOD THING HE'S WEARING HIS HELMET.

JERP and CLERP murmur and nod their agreement, while SWERP looks confused, but reassured by their relief.

26. Cut back to VINKALERT, his driving resembling that of a racing car driver on an obstacle course, driving off the road frequently in order to continue. Eventually he cannot drive past the stopped cars at all, and stops. He beeps his horn without expecting it to accomplish anything.

VINKALERT

(Muttering to himself, shaking his head) NO ONE IN THESE CARS
EITHER - PROBABLY ALL SWITCHED TO ANOTHER PLANET BY (Decisively)

THE STREET GANG FROM MARS...

VINKALERT gets out of his car and proceeds on foot. Although VINKALERT hasn't seen one other person since being glitched back to Klug, after stepping out of the car a CROWD OF EARTHLING MEN can be seen and heard in the distance.

EARTHLING #1

A BLUE SKINNED ONE!

EARTHLING #2

OR AN IMPOSTER TRYING TO MAKE EVERYBODY THINK HE'S A BLUE SKINNED ONE. HEY YOU! ARE YOU FROM ANOTHER PLANET?

VINKALERT

WHAT'S THAT? AM I - FROM ANOTHER PLANET? UH, NO!

EARTHLING #3

YOU'RE AN IMPOSTER?

VINKALERT

THAT'S RIGHT!

EARTHLING #1

LET ME ASK YOU - DO YOU KNOW... WHERE THERE'S A TELEPHONE?

CROWD OF EARTHLING MEN

(Muttering) YEAH, WHERE THERE'S A TELEPHONE. THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION, THAT'S A QUESTION THAT... YEAH, WHERE THERE'S A TELEPHONE, WHERE'S A TELEPHONE AROUND HERE, ASK HIM WHERE THERE'S A TELEPHONE, YEAH, SEE IF HE CAN ANSWER THAT.

VINKALERT

A TELEPHONE? YOU WANT TO KNOW WHERE... OH, I SEE ONE. RIGHT UNDER THAT MANHOLE COVER.

CROWD OF EARTHLING MEN follow VINKALERT to a manhole cover.

EARTHLING #1

SO YOU'RE NOT REALLY BLUE SKINNED?

VINKALERT

NO! OF COURSE NOT!

EARTHLING #1

YOU'RE JUST AN IMPOSTER?

VINKALERT

THAT'S IT!

VINKALERT bends down and lifts up the manhole cover, on the other side of which is some kind of electronic gadgetry that resembles a telephone.

VINKALERT

AND HERE'S YOUR TELEPHONE!

EARTHLING #1

THAT'S A TELEPHONE?

VINKALERT

THAT'S A TELEPHONE!

EARTHLING #2

GRAB HIM!

CROWD OF EARTHLING MEN grab VINKALERT.

EARTHLING #1

OKAY BUDDY, WHAT PLANET DO YOU COME FROM?

VINKALERT

YOU MARTIANS WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!

CROWD OF EARTHLING MEN

MARTIANS? THE MARTIANS ARE HERE TOO? NOT MARTIANS! NOW THINGS ARE GETTING COMPLICATED!

VINKALERT

YOU'RE NOT MARTIANS?

EARTHLING #1

WHY DON'T YOU STOP ARGUING AND JUST TELL US WHERE YOU'RE FROM ALREADY? (Pregnant pause) OUT WITH IT, NOW. (Pregnant pause) WE MEAN IT.

VINKALERT

(Pregnant pause) I COME FROM KLUG.

CROWD OF EARTHLING MEN

KLUG! I KNEW IT. JUST LIKE GOSK. ANOTHER GOSK FROM KLUG. ARE YOU
A GOSK FROM KLUG? HEY! ARE YOU - IS HE A GOSK FROM KLUG? SO WE
FOUND ANOTHER KLUGIAN... THIS IS GREAT! WE'RE HEROES! RIGHT?

EARTHLING #1

NOW HOLD ON EVERYBODY! WE STILL DON'T KNOW WHETHER OR NOT HE'S AN
IMPOSTER.

EARTHLING #2

LET'S ASK HIM SOME QUESTIONS FOR A WHILE. IF HE KNOWS WHAT
EVERYTHING IS AROUND HERE, THEN WE'LL TURN HIM OVER TO THE
AUTHORITIES.

EARTHLING #1

YEAH! WE'LL... TEST HIM...

EARTHLING #2

FOR A WEEK OR SO.

EARTHLING #3

WE COULD TEST HIM FOR A MONTH.

MEMBER OF CROWD OF EARTHLING MEN

WE COULD USE HIM FOR A WHOLE YEAR! YOU SHOULD SEE THE LIST OF
THINGS MY WIFE WANTS TO KNOW THE KLUGIAN EQUIVALENT OF! THERE'S
THE HAIR DRYER, AND THEN THERE'S THE VACUUM CLEANER...

VINKALERT

WHAT WERE YOU SAYING ABOUT GOSK? SOMEBODY ASKED IF I WAS A GOSK?

EARTHLING #1

THAT IDIOT! (Turning to EARTHLING who had said, "Gosk") GOSK IS
HER NAME, NOT HER... SPECIES... JUST LIKE YOU HAVE A NAME.

(EARTHLING being addressed looks confused) SHE'S FROM KLUG! THIS
GUY HERE? HE'S NOT A "GOSK", HE'S A KLUGIAN!

VINKALERT

DOES THIS GOSK, DOES SHE HAVE A LITTLE BLUE FLOWER IN HER HAIR,
DOES SHE WEAR ALL THIS JEWELRY AND TALK WITH A CHORKIAN ACCENT?

EARTHLING #2

A CHORKIAN ACCENT?

VINKALERT

DOES SHE HAVE A BLUE FLOWER IN HER HAIR!

EARTHLING #3

SEE, I TOLD YOU THAT WAS A FLOWER.

EARTHLING #1

WELL, IT LOOKED LIKE A HEADPHONE.

VINKALERT

I KNOW HER! WE WENT OUT IN HIGH SCHOOL - WEARS LOTS OF JEWELRY,
RIGHT? A LOT OF JEWELRY?

EARTHLING #1

JEWELRY? OH. (Apologetically to CROWD OF EARTHLING MEN) WELL, I
THOUGHT IT, IT LOOKED LIKE ELECTRONIC WIRES. (Turning to
VINKALERT) I MEAN, THEY WERE BEAUTIFUL, THEY JUST SORT OF LOOKED
LIKE ELECTRONIC WIRES, THAT'S ALL.

VINKALERT

GOSK! WELL HOW IS SHE? WHAT'S SHE BEEN UP TO?

EARTHLING #1

(Pregnant pause) PERHAPS IT'S TIME WE STARTED FROM THE BEGINNING.
(EARTHLING #1 turns to EARTHLING #2 and EARTHLING #3 to continue,
but they return the look to EARTHLING #1) OKAY... YOU PROBABLY
WON'T BELIEVE THIS, BUT... THEY UH, I UH, WE THINK SOMEBODY
SWITCHED PLANETS ON US, AND...

VINKALERT

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I THINK. ONLY THEN THEY SWITCHED ME BACK,
FROM WHAT I CAN TELL - EXCEPT FOR MY FISHING GEAR. MY FRIEND,
DOCKERT, HE THINKS IT'S THE MARS ZUNS, THE STREET GANG FROM MARS.

CROWD OF EARTHLING MEN

THE MARS ZUNS! THE STREET GANG FROM MARS! SO THAT'S WHO DID IT!

EARTHLING #2

YOUR FRIEND TOLD YOU THAT?

VINKALERT

DOCKERT. HE'S BACK ON YOUR PLANET, FROM WHAT I CAN TELL, THAT IS, IF THAT'S WHAT REALLY HAPPENED, IF THEY REALLY SWITCHED PLANETS ON US.

EARTHLING #1

I'M SURE OF IT. (CROWD OF EARTHLING MEN murmur their agreement)

VINKALERT

BUT YOU HAVEN'T TOLD ME ANYTHING ABOUT GOSK YET! THAT'S REALLY AMAZING, SO GOSK IS STILL WEARING THAT BLUE FLOWER AND ALL THAT JEWELRY! SOME PEOPLE JUST NEVER CHANGE!

EARTHLING #1

(Picturing Gosk in his mind's eye) GUESS NOT.

VINKALERT

WE WENT OUT IN HIGH SCHOOL... SO, HOW DO ALL YOU GUYS KNOW HER?

EARTHLING #1

ME AND SAM (Indicating EARTHLING #3, who nods) WENT TO SEE HER,
WE DON'T ACTUALLY KNOW HER, WE HEARD ABOUT HER. EVER SINCE
(Suddenly drops his voice to a whisper), EVER SINCE THIS STRANGE
THING HAPPENED, WHERE WE PROBABLY GOT SWITCHED TO ANOTHER
PLANET - (EVERYONE PRESENT nods their head) EVER SINCE THEN, THE
WORD IS, AND WE DON'T EVEN HAVE TELEVISION OR RADIOS OR
NEWSPAPERS ANY MORE - BUT THE WORD IS, WORD REACHED US THAT,
THERE WAS THIS BLUE SKINNED WOMAN - NO OFFENSE -

VINKALERT

I UNDERSTAND.

EARTHLING #1

SO THIS BLUE SKINNED WOMAN IS THE ONLY WORD WE HAVE ABOUT WHERE
WE ARE. SHE COMES OUT ON SOME BALCONY, BUT WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO
WORK THE TELEVISION STATIONS OR THE RADIOS OR THE NEWSPAPERS, YOU
KNOW, ALL WE GET IS WORD NOW AND THEN FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE THERE
EACH DAY WHEN SHE COMES OUT ON THE BALCONY. ME AND SAM HEARD IT
WASN'T FAR, SO WE WENT. THEN WORD GOT AROUND ABOUT THESE OTHER
PEOPLE TRYING TO CHEAT EVERYONE, PRETENDING TO BE FROM ANOTHER

PLANET, SAYING THEY KNEW HOW THINGS WORKED HERE, WORD GOT AROUND THAT THEY SAID THE REFRIGERATORS WERE IN THE BOOKSHELVES. TURNED OUT THE REFRIGERATORS WERE IN THE SOFAS. (CROWD OF EARTHLING MEN murmur their agreement.)

VINKALERT

I KNEW THAT.

EARTHLING #1

IMPOSTERS, THAT'S WHAT I MEAN. YOU KNEW THAT, WELL ANYWAY, THIS GOSK COMES OUT ON A BALCONY - YOU KNEW THAT? THAT'S RIGHT, YOU'RE FROM KLUG, AREN'T YOU? SAY, DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE BOOKSHELVES? THAT'S THE ONE THAT'S CONFUSING EVERYBODY, EVER SINCE THAT GUY MADE THAT UP AND EVERYBODY WENT TO THE BOOKSHELVES LOOKING FOR A REFRIGERATOR. I'LL EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENS WITH THE BOOKSHELVES - ALTHOUGH YOU PROBABLY KNOW - THIS REALLY STRANGE SOUND COMES OUT WHENEVER FIVE BOOKS ARE REMOVED AT A TIME, BUT SEVEN BOOKS MAKE THE WHOLE BOOKSHELF VIBRATE. NO REFRIGERATOR, BUT ALL THAT COMMOTION LIKE I DESCRIBED.

VINKALERT

THE BOOKSHELVES? THAT'S A VERY COMPLICATED ONE... OKAY. WE CALL IT THE "PULSATING TELEVISION". IT BREATHES LIFE INTO ALL THE SHOWS, ONLY, YOU HAVE TO FIND THE STATION BY ADJUSTING THE KNOBS. (EARTHLING #1 looks at VINKALERT questioningly) WHICH ARE ON THE LAMPS, OTHERWISE IT'LL - WELL, YOU ALL SAW FOR YOURSELVES. (CROWD OF EARTHLING MEN murmur their agreement.)

EARTHLING #1

AND WHAT KLUGIAN GENIUS THOUGHT OF THAT ONE?

VINKALERT

THEY JUST CAME INTO FASHION ABOUT TEN YEARS AGO, PEOPLE WERE READING LESS, SO NOW, YOU'RE MOTIVATED I GUESS (THIS IS THE COMPLICATED PART), YOU TAKE FIVE BOOKS (OR SEVEN, WHATEVER, DEPENDING) OFF OF THE BOOKSHELF IN THE PART OF IT WHERE THE SHOW YOU WANT IS ON, AND THEN SINCE YOU HAVE TO PUT THE BOOKS SOMEWHERE, YOU'RE MOTIVATED TO READ, SEE? (EARTHLING #1 looks skeptical) THE PROBLEM WAS WHEN PEOPLE FIGURED OUT A WAY AROUND IT. IN FACT, THE NEWER HOUSES EVEN HAVE AN EXTRA BOOKSHELF BUILT IN. THEN THERE WERE A LOT OF EDITORIALS ABOUT PEOPLE... CHEATING THEMSELVES OUT OF AN EDUCATION, BY NOT PUTTING THE BOOKS ON A TABLE OR ON SOMETHING WHERE THEY WOULD BE MORE LIKELY TO READ

THEM - THEY EVEN CONSIDERED MAKING IT ILLEGAL TO HAVE EXTRA BOOKSHELVES.

EARTHLING #1

HMM... MAYBE IT WOULD BE BETTER IF YOU DIDN'T TELL US TOO MUCH ABOUT THE WAY THINGS WORK ON YOUR PLANET AFTER ALL. I'M BEGINNING TO GET JUST A LITTLE BIT OF A HEADACHE - ONLY I'M AFRAID TO ASK WHAT THE ASPIRIN IS. MAYBE, YES, I THINK THE BEST THING WOULD BE, IF WE JUST BROUGHT YOU TO THE AUTHORITIES.

VINKALERT

THE ASPIRIN - YOU'LL FIND IT IN THE FIELDS YOU SEE IN MOST PLACES. MOST PEOPLE HARVEST A SUPPLY OF ASPIRIN ONCE A YEAR. ARE YOU SURE I REALLY WANT TO SEE THE AUTHORITIES?

EARTHLING #1

THEY'RE THE ONES WHO'LL TAKE YOU TO SEE GOSK. IT'LL WORK OUT GREAT FOR YOU, IN NO TIME YOU'LL BE STANDING ON A BALCONY WHILE... PEOPLE SHOUT OUT THE NAMES OF HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES!

VINKALERT

SO THAT'S WHAT THEY'VE BEEN DOING WITH GOSK! YOU KNOW, IN A WAY THAT SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING SHE ALWAYS WANTED TO DO, EVEN BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL.

EARTHLING #1

I JUST HAVE TO ASK YOU ONE MORE TIME. THAT'S NOT BLUE MAKE UP YOU'RE WEARING, IS IT? I MEAN YOU WEREN'T KIDDING ME ABOUT THE EXTRA BOOKSHELVES?

VINKALERT

THAT'S, HOW WE LIVE ON KLUG. I MYSELF WAS NEVER IN FAVOR OF MAKING EXTRA BOOKSHELVES ILLEGAL...

EARTHLING #1

ALRIGHT, YOU SAY YOU'RE SERIOUS THEN. BECAUSE WE COULD GET IN TROUBLE IF WE TAKE YOU TO THE AUTHORITIES AND IT TURNS OUT YOU'RE AN IMPOSTER.

VINKALERT

(Pregnant pause) HOW DO I KNOW YOU'RE NOT IMPOSTERS?

CROWD OF EARTHLING MEN murmur their approval at the point
VINKALERT has raised. EARTHLING #1 looks extremely confused.
FADE OUT.

27. FADE IN. GOSK and VINKALERT are making out in a palatial
setting. FADE OUT.

28. FADE IN. Once again the BIG EARTH CROWD is gathered outside
of Gosk's balcony, and again they're chanting, "Gosk!" over and
over. This time when GOSK comes out she is accompanied by
someone else from Klug, VINKALERT. As soon as the crowd sees him
they murmur, "Ooooh!" A moment later the Mars Zuns' spacecraft
emits the strange glitch ray, which instantly transports
VINKALERT inside the spacecraft. Back on Earth, the BIG EARTH
CROWD immediately murmurs, "Aahhhh!"

29. Inside the spacecraft, VINKALERT is unnoticed by the five SPACECRAFT OCCUPANTS, who include four Earthlings and one Klugian. They are all gathered around the television monitor and are smoking the droke, exactly like the Mars Zuns. VINKALERT cannot see what is on the television monitor because the SPACECRAFT OCCUPANTS are in his way.

VINKALERT

HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? SO YOU'RE THE STREET GANG FROM MARS! THINK YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH SWITCHING PLANETS ON EVERYBODY, EH? THE STREET GANG FROM MARS! SO AT LAST WE MEET! MY FRIEND DOCKERT READ ALL ABOUT YOU IN THE NATION'S ENQUIRER. I SUPPOSE YOU ALL THINK YOU'VE ABDUCTED ME. (The SPACECRAFT OCCUPANTS continue watching the monitor, their backs to VINKALERT. Pause.) UH, WHAT'S THAT YOU'RE ALL WATCHING ON TELEVISION? (Short pause) DO THEY, UH, HAVE DIFFERENT TELEVISION SHOWS ON MARS? (Short pause) MIND IF I GET A HIT OFF OF THAT?

LOUISE

(As 50's rock and roll music is continuously heard in the background on the radio) THAT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN THE RADIO! YOU GOT THE VOLUME WORKING AGAIN!

WALTERS

NO... I DON'T THINK I DID. (WALTERS looks at some controls,
thinks) WAIT. (WALTERS turns around and sees VINKALERT.) THERE.

The SPACECRAFT OCCUPANTS turn around to face VINKALERT.

HARRIET

LOOK, ANOTHER ONE.

VINKALERT

WHO ARE YOU!

WALTERS

LOOKS LIKE HE WAS GLITCHED HERE.

JONES

THAT'S MY GUESS. WELCOME - I'M JONES, THAT'S WALTERS, LOUISE, HARRIET, AND SPLERT (SPLERT, AS YOU CAN SEE, IS A KLUGIAN LIKE YOU. ONLY IT TURNS OUT HE'S A DEAF-MUTE). (Everybody nods and smiles) ALL OF THIS IS THE WORK OF THE STREET GANG FROM MARS, AS FAR AS WE CAN TELL. WE AREN'T THEM, BUT WE BELIEVE THAT THIS IS THEIR SPACECRAFT. (VINKALERT vehemently nods and seems bursting to interrupt, but JONES indicates for him not to speak, and continues) BIT BY BIT WE'RE FINDING OUT JUST WHO THEY ARE, WHAT THEY WANTED, WHY THEY AREN'T HERE - AS FOR YOU, I'D SAY YOU SEEM TO BE HERE THE SAME WAY AS THE LAST THREE OF US TO ARRIVE, LOUISE, HARRIET AND SPLERT. YOU GOT GLITCHED ABOARD BECAUSE OF SOME SPILLED JUICE IN THE CONTROL PANEL, THAT IS, THAT'S THE CAUSE OF THE GLITCH AS FAR AS WE CAN TELL. IT'S DEFINITELY A GLITCH THOUGH (ALTHOUGH WALTERS HERE SAYS HE THINKS IT'S THE FAULT OF THE MANUFACTURERS OF ONE OF THE DEVICES HERE). (WALTERS nods his head, VINKALERT nods back, as if he appreciates Walters' position.) AS FOR THE REST OF US, WE BOARDED VOLUNTARILY WHILE THE SPACECRAFT WAS PARKED ON TOP OF SOMEBODY'S CAR.

WALTERS

FORTUNATELY, THE ELECTRONICS OF THIS SPACECRAFT, WHILE NOT KNOWN TO ANY OF US PREVIOUSLY, ARE REMARKABLY EASY TO FIGURE OUT.

JONES

NOW, IF YOU DON'T MIND, WE'RE WATCHING SOMETHING WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR ALL DAY.

JONES, WALTERS, LOUISE, HARRIET, and SPLERT turn back around to watch the monitor.

VINKALERT

THAT'S GREAT, I GET, GLITCHED ABOARD A SPACECRAFT, AND EVERYBODY FEELS LIKE WATCHING TELEVISION. I SHOULD HAVE STAYED IN BED - I SHOULD NEVER HAVE GOTTEN OUT OF BED - WHAT DAY WAS THAT? I SHOULD NEVER HAVE GOTTEN OUT OF BED, I THINK IT WAS THREE DAYS AGO. AS IF THAT WOULD HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE. THEY WOULD HAVE SWITCHED PLANETS ON ME ANYWAY. OH LOOK, THAT'S GOSK! YOU'RE WATCHING GOSK ON TELEVISION! (Short pause) I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE THERE, RIGHT NEXT TO HER. AND THEN THIS HAPPENED. WE WENT OUT IN HIGH SCHOOL, YOU KNOW.

Everybody suddenly turns away from the television monitor and looks at VINKALERT.

WALTERS

YOU'RE VINKALERT! THE NEW KLUGIAN THEY WERE GOING TO INTRODUCE TODAY! HOW COME YOU'RE UP HERE INSTEAD OF DOWN - AH YES, THE GLITCH.

JONES, LOUISE, and HARRIET nod their heads and murmur, "The Glitch."

30. Back in the row boat, the MARS ZUNS are each holding up a corner of Swerp's jacket to make a sail. Their postures appear slightly rigid and artificial, as if they're imitating something they saw in a magazine.

CLERP

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE THE DAY I'D BE GLAD THE MARTIAN TELEVISION PROGRAMMERS INTERCEPTED THE FREQUENCY OF THOSE RERUNS OF THAT EARTH TELEVISION SHOW, "GILLIGAN'S ISLAND".

JERP

YOU DIDN'T SAY "GILLIGAN'S ISLAND"?

CLERP

THAT'S WHERE I GOT THE IDEA.

JERP immediately lets go of his corner of the jacket.

DERP

WHY'D YOU DO THAT?

JERP

YOU DIDN'T WATCH "GILLIGAN'S ISLAND" MUCH, DID YOU?

CLERP

NO, WHY? WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH IT?

JERP

THEY NEVER GET OFF THE ISLAND! THEY'RE STUCK THERE! NOTHING THEY TRY GETS THEM OFF THE ISLAND, THAT'S THE WHOLE IDEA OF THE SHOW!

CLERP

(Pregnant pause) OH.

The MARS ZUNS each let go of their corner of the jacket, giving it back to SWERP.

CLERP

(After thinking a moment) ARE YOU SURE THEY DIDN'T EVEN ESCAPE IN THE TELEVISION MOVIE THEY MADE?

The MARS ZUNS all look at JERP hopefully.

JERP

THERE WAS A TELEVISION MOVIE OF "GILLIGAN'S ISLAND"?

The MARS ZUNS excitedly grab their corner of Swerp's jacket and make a sail out of it again.

Not too far away, three EARTH GIRLS, unaware of the nearby MARS ZUNS, are taking their clothes off and swimming. The faint sound of 50's rock and roll music is heard, anticipating the next cut.

31. Cut to inside the spacecraft, where the music is louder. VINKALERT is now seated and watching the television monitor along with the others, smoking the droke. GOSK is on the television monitor, and is now audible.

VINKALERT

I'M SURPRISED YOU PEOPLE COULDN'T FIND THE VOLUME CONTROL ON THE MONITOR WITHOUT ME. NOT THAT THE RADIO IS SO BAD.

LOUISE

WE HAD THE VOLUME CONTROL, BUT THEN WE LOST IT, ONLY THEN WE

FOUND IT AGAIN. WHEN YOU GOT HERE WE HAD JUST LOST IT AGAIN.

VINKALERT

IT WAS VERY SIMPLE, FOR ANYBODY FROM KLUG THAT IS. ONLY WHY DIDN'T SPLERT KNOW WHERE... OH, THAT'S RIGHT, HE'S A DEAF-MUTE! YOU KNOW, I GUESS BEING A DEAF-MUTE REALLY IS LIKE BEING FROM ANOTHER PLANET.

HARRIET

CAN YOU BE QUIET? WE WANT TO HEAR WHAT GOSK IS SAYING.

VINKALERT

I KNOW WHAT SHE'S SAYING. SHE TOLD ME THEY ONLY LET HER SAY "THE REFRIGERATOR'S IN THE SOFA" AND THINGS LIKE THAT. WHAT SHE REALLY WANTED WAS TO BECOME AN ACTRESS - THAT WAS ALWAYS HER DREAM. WHAT'S SHE TALKING ABOUT NOW? ELECTRIC CAN OPENERS, PROBABLY. SHE TOLD ME SHE DIDN'T MIND BEING LIMITED TO THAT, AT FIRST. AND THERE WAS A TIME WHEN THAT REALLY WOULD HAVE BEEN SOMETHING TO HER - BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL THAT WOULD HAVE SEEMED TO HER LIKE SOMETHING...

HARRIET

IF YOU WOULD BE QUIET A MINUTE, SHE'S TALKING ABOUT YOU!

VINKALERT

(Whispering in awe like someone who is about to hear his name on television for the first time) ME?

GOSK

AND SO VINKALERT, IF YOU'RE OUT THERE (I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU COULD BE, BUT THEN I DON'T UNDERSTAND HALF OF WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON AROUND HERE), I HOPE YOU ARE OKAY... IT WAS NICE SEEING YOU AGAIN. VINKALERT, IF YOU'RE OUT THERE, DO YOU KNOW WHAT EVER BECAME OF DOCKERT? WE USED TO HANG AROUND WITH DOCKERT BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL, REMEMBER? AND ALSO TUXERT, I MEANT TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH HER. VINKALERT, IF YOU'RE OUT THERE WATCHING...

VINKALERT

SHE ALWAYS DID HAVE A CERTAIN AUTOMATIC SENSE ABOUT WHAT I WAS

DOING. IF I TOLD YOU ABOUT SOME OF THE THINGS THAT HAPPENED WHEN WE WERE GOING OUT... (Talking to the television monitor now) YES, GOSK, TUXERT AND DOCKERT ARE FINE, THEY GOT MARRIED IN FACT. HOW COULD I EVER FORGET HOW WE USED TO HANG AROUND WITH THEM? I MEANT TO EXPLAIN ALL ABOUT THEM AND WHAT THEY'VE BEEN UP TO, BUT I - (Now addressing himself to the walls of the spacecraft) GOT GLITCHED ONTO A MARTIAN SPACECRAFT.

LOUISE looks at VINKALERT sympathetically, interrupted when she accidentally drops the droke onto a control panel, and, as before when it happened to the Mars Zuns, they all watch it bounce around like a ball in a pinball machine, not quite able to follow where it is going.

32. In the row boat, the MARS ZUNS are still each holding up their end of Swerp's jacket, but it fails to act as a sail. The MARS ZUNS seem like they've been in the same magazine pose for hours.

DERP

MAYBE I NEVER SHOULD HAVE BOUGHT THAT BUTTON IN THE FIRST PLACE.

CLERP

DON'T SAY THAT, DERP. YOU COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN THIS WOULD HAPPEN.

DERP

BUT SHOULD WE REALLY BE SWITCHING EVERYBODY FROM ONE PLANET TO
ANOTHER PLANET? SHOULD WE -

JERP

I NEVER LOOKED AT IT THAT WAY...

DERP

I'M NOT FINISHED! (Short pause) AND SHOULD WE BE SWITCHING
EVERYBODY FROM THAT OTHER PLANET ONTO THE PLANET WHERE WE...
SHOULD WE BE LEAVING ONE PERSON BEHIND ON EACH PLANET -

SWERP

TWO. THERE ARE TWO PEOPLE FROM KLUG HERE NOW.

DERP

TWO PEOPLE BEHIND ON ONE PLANET AND ONE PERSON BEHIND ON THE
OTHER PLANET, SHOULD WE BE DOING THAT?

CLERP

DON'T FORGET ABOUT THAT STRING QUARTET FROM EARTH WHO ARE NOW
BACK ON EARTH.

JERP

THEY DON'T COUNT, THEY DON'T EVEN KNOW THEY'VE BEEN SWITCHED
AROUND, THEY JUST KEEP PLAYING WITHOUT NOTICING.

CLERP

MAYBE, THEY DON'T COUNT. WE'LL SEE.

JERP

WE'LL SEE.

DERP

BUT WHAT I'M SAYING IS... HOW OLD ARE WE NOW? WE SHOULD JUST, WE SHOULD, WHEN WE GET OUT OF THIS ROW BOAT - (The other MARS ZUNS suddenly look worried) NO, I DIDN'T MEAN, WHAT I MEANT WAS, WHEN WE GET TO DRY LAND, AND THEN WE GET OUT OF THIS ROW BOAT, OKAY? THEN, WHAT WE SHOULD DO IS, WE SHOULD GO FIND GOSK, AND WE SHOULD... SAY WE'RE SORRY. WE DIDN'T MEAN TO SWITCH EVERYBODY FROM HER PLANET ONTO ANOTHER PLANET AND EVERYBODY FROM THE OTHER PLANET, YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN. OKAY?

CLERP

OKAY, DERP.

JERP

OKAY, DERP.

SWERP

OKAY, DERP.

DERP

THEN, WHEN EVERYTHING'S BACK TO NORMAL, LET'S GO FIND SOME GIRLS FROM EARTH AND, AND JUST SETTLE DOWN SOMEWHERE, FOR A WHILE ANYWAY.

SWERP

IT'S ALL GOING TO BE OVER AFTER WE APOLOGIZE TO GOSK? EVERYTHING WILL BE BACK TO NORMAL AFTER THAT? ARE YOU SURE?

DERP

NO, I DIDN'T MEAN THINGS WOULD... IMMEDIATELY GET BACK TO NORMAL AFTER THAT. BUT WHEN THEY DO.

CLERP

THIS EXPERIENCE REALLY SOUNDS LIKE ITS CHANGED YOU, DERP.

DERP

(Nodding solemnly) IT HAS.

JERP

YOU KNOW, AFTER LISTENING TO ALL OF THAT EARTH ROCK AND ROLL,
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT EARTH GIRLS TOO.

SWERP

ME TOO.

DERP

THEN IT'S SETTLED. FIRST WE APOLOGIZE TO GOSK.

CLERP

AFTER WE GET OUT OF THIS ROW BOAT.

SWERP

AFTER WE REACH DRY LAND.

DERP

THEN, AFTER EVERYTHING'S BACK TO NORMAL, WE FIND SOME EARTH GIRLS, AND... SETTLE DOWN SOMEWHERE... FOR A WHILE. IT MIGHT NOT BE AS EASY AS PUSHING A BUTTON...

Suddenly the three naked EARTH GIRLS surface in the water, each taking a corner of the row boat, and begin swimming it to shore. The MARS ZUNS, pleased with the situation, give SWERP back his jacket, and, after resuming their normal position in their seats, lower the visors on their helmets.

DERP

SO, WHERE YOU GIRLS FROM?

33. On Earth, BUEGERT, DOCKERT, and TUXERT are sitting behind a rock. BUEGERT and TUXERT are listening to the EARTH STRING QUARTET, while DOCKERT has his eyes closed, and would appear to be asleep except for the fact that he occasionally sways his head with the music. TUXERT is listening with a slightly mesmerized expression, while BUEGERT is listening very intently, with a very mesmerized expression. Suddenly the CELLIST plays a note wrong, making a noticeable squeak. The other members of the EARTH STRING QUARTET stop playing a moment, looking at the CELLIST with deep concern. DOCKERT seems awakened by the squeak, suddenly getting his bearings. The EARTH STRING QUARTET resumes playing.

DOCKERT

(Loud whisper) WE'VE BEEN LISTENING TO THIS STRING QUARTET FOR,
IT... MUST BE DAYS!

BUEGERT

(Whisper) QUIET! THIS - IS PROBABLY THE MOST IMPORTANT EXPERIENCE
OF OUR ENTIRE LIVES - A CHANCE TO HEAR... STRANGE MUSIC, BEING
PLAYED ON - STRANGE INSTRUMENTS!

DOCKERT

(Loud whisper) BY STRANGE PEOPLE!

BUEGERT

(Whispering, sounding mesmerized) WHAT'S THAT?

DOCKERT

(Loud whisper) YOU HAVEN'T EVEN NOTICED... AND REMEMBER WHEN THEY WERE EATING? DID YOU SEE WHICH CONTAINERS THE KETCHUP AND MUSTARD CAME OUT OF? HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THAT? (Short pause) BY THE WAY, AREN'T YOU GETTING JUST A LITTLE BIT HUNGRY?

TUXERT

(Whisper) I AM, BUEGERT. BESIDES, IT HAS BEEN DAYS. THEY'RE A LITTLE BIT MESMERIZING, BUT THEY AREN'T THAT GOOD. YOU REALLY SEEM MESMERIZED.

BUEGERT

(Loud whisper) YOU TWO DON'T KNOW WHEN YOU'RE HAVING THE
EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME!

DOCKERT

(Loud whisper) I KNOW WHAT IT IS! THE STREET GANG FROM MARS MADE
US GO CRAZY! FOR SOME REASON, THAT I CAN'T EXPLAIN, WE'VE BEEN...
SITTING HERE BEHIND THIS ROCK... WE'VE BEEN GOING ALONG WITH YOU,
BUEGERT... DOESN'T THIS ALL SEEM A LITTLE - YOU'RE NOT EVEN
CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED TO VINKALERT!

BUEGERT

(Whisper) WHAT? VINKALERT? LET'S SEE, YOU SAID HE GOT ZAPPED TO
ANOTHER PLANET. OR BACK TO KLUG. RIGHT?

DOCKERT

(Loud whisper) BUT YOU THINK HE'S BEEN HIDING ALL THIS TIME?
WE'RE MAKING BELIEVE? I'LL TELL YOU WHAT'S RIDICULOUS! FINDING
YOURSELF ON ANOTHER PLANET, BUT FOR DAYS IN A ROW, INSTEAD OF
DOING ANYTHING, JUST SITTING BEHIND THIS ROCK - SITTING HERE...
MESMERIZED! BY THE - STRANGE PLANET'S STRING QUARTET, WHILE -

STARVING TO DEATH! (Short pause) WAIT - NOW I GET IT - I READ AN ARTICLE ALL ABOUT THIS IN THE NATION'S ENQUIRER! THOSE PEOPLE... WHEN THEY WERE ABDUCTED BY THE MARS ZUNS - MOST OF THEM CLAIMED THEY WERE MADE TO LISTEN TO STRANGE MUSIC FROM MARS - UNTIL IT MESMERIZED THEM... THAT'S IT! IT MESMERIZED THEM! I THINK THE ARTICLE SAID... THE WORDS "DOO WOP" KEPT OCCURRING IN THE STRANGE MARTIAN MUSIC... HAS ANYONE HEARD THEM DO THAT?

TUXERT

(Whisper) IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU NEVER MISS AN ISSUE.

DOCKERT

(Loud whisper) ANSWER ME, HAVE YOU HEARD THEM GO "DOO WOP" YET? WAIT, THEN IN THE ARTICLE, SOME SCIENTISTS SAID THAT WHATEVER MUSIC IT WAS, PEOPLE FREQUENTLY GET MESMERIZED JUST BY HEARING MUSIC THAT IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT. THEY REACT - EXACTLY THE WAY YOU'RE REACTING. THEY GET MESMERIZED, BUEGERT. TUXERT AND I ARE AT LEAST... SMART ENOUGH TO KNOW WE'RE STARVING TO DEATH.

BUEGERT

(Whisper) DOCKERT, IF YOU WERE THE LEAST BIT INTELLIGENT, YOU NOT ONLY WOULD KNOW BETTER THAN TO READ THE NATION'S ENQUIRER, YOU WOULDN'T EVEN ADMIT TO PEOPLE THAT YOU READ THE NATION'S ENQUIRER.

DOCKERT

(Loud whisper) I WOULDN'T?

BUEGERT

(Loud whisper) NO!

DOCKERT

(Whisper) BUT THEN WHAT ABOUT...

DOCKERT motions around himself, BUEGERT looks at him sternly.

DOCKERT then tries, unsuccessfully, to look undaunted by BUEGERT.

34. On the spacecraft, VINKALERT is looking around while the others continue watching the monitor attentively. On the monitor a KLUGIAN is trying to figure out how to break into a locked Earth automobile. The manner in which the KLUGIAN attempts to break into the Earth automobile suggests that he is accustomed to a different kind of car altogether (trying to pull the door open by touching the tire with the end of his shoe, etc.). VINKALERT opens the door to a closet, and discovers that it is filled with nothing but different issues of The Nation's Enquirer.

VINKALERT

HEY, LOOK AT ALL THIS!

WALTERS, JONES, LOUISE, HARRIET, and SPLERT look, then excitedly leave their chairs to more closely examine the issues of The Nation's Enquirer. On the monitor the KLUGIAN continues trying to break into the Earth car.

WALTERS

THESE ARE GREAT! THIS IS THE GREATEST FIND SINCE WE'VE BEEN ON THE SPACECRAFT.

LOUISE

EXCEPT MAYBE WHEN WE FOUND THAT THING AFTER I DROPPED IT INTO
THE, WHEN I WAS PASSING IT TO -

WALTERS

THIS IS ABSOLUTELY THE GREATEST FIND! THESE, THESE TELL US
EVERYTHING! (WALTERS excitedly flips through several issues)

JONES

YOU KNOW WHAT I THINK? I THINK THESE MARS ZUNS GAVE THE STORIES
DIRECTLY TO THE NATION'S ENQUIRER, I THINK IF WE READ THESE
ARTICLES, WE'LL BE ABLE TO LEARN EVERYTHING THEY'VE BEEN DOING,
SINCE, THEY FIRST STARTED DOING THINGS!

LOUISE

HOW DID YOU FIND THESE, VINKALOIT?

VINKALERT

ACTUALLY, I WAS LOOKING FOR THE BATHROOM.

JONES

AH, HERE'S ONE YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN, VINKALERT!

JONES holds it out for VINKALERT to take it, which he does while giving JONES an inquisitive look.

VINKALERT

LET'S SEE... (Reading mockingly) "STREET GANG FROM MARS ANNOUNCES THEY'LL BE ABDUCTING KLUGIANS TO EARTH SOON. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE (WHO OUR READERS WILL REMEMBER FROM PREVIOUS ARTICLES IS DERP, THE LEADER AND SPOKESMAN FOR THE MARS ZUNS [THE STREET GANG FROM MARS]) THE MARS ZUNS WILL BE SWITCHING US ALL TO ANOTHER PLANET IN A FEW DAYS (WE TOLD YOU TO EXPECT TO BE HEARING MORE FROM DERP!). HE FURTHER EXPLAINED THAT HE HAS SELECTED ONE KLUGIAN TO STAY BEHIND ON KLUG, TO ACT AS HOSTESS FOR THE EARTHLINGS THAT WILL BE SWITCHED TO KLUG, BUT WHEN ASKED HOW HE MADE HIS SELECTION OF WHICH KLUGIAN TO LEAVE BEHIND ON KLUG...

(Suddenly reading seriously) DERP RESPONDED EVASIVELY. HOWEVER, OUR REPORTER, USING HER SPECIAL SKILLS IN MARTIAN DIPLOMACY ACQUIRED WHEN SHE WAS ABDUCTED BY THE STREET GANG FROM MARS THREE YEARS AGO, WAS ABLE TO LEARN THE TRUTH. (OUR READERS WILL RECALL OUR HEADLINE OF THREE YEARS AGO, 'STREET GANG FROM MARS BOTCH ATTEMPT TO SEND OUT FOR EARTH FOOD, PIZZA, ACCIDENTALLY ABDUCTING NATION'S ENQUIRER REPORTER, REPORTER SURVIVES BY MAKING FAKE PIZZA AND IMPERSONATING EARTH PIZZA DELIVERY BOY'.) WHEN PRESSED, DERP FINALLY REVEALED THAT THE KLUGIAN HE SELECTED (WHO HE REFUSED TO NAME) WON HIM OVER WITH THE BLUE FLOWER SHE ALWAYS WEARS IN HER HAIR. IN DERP'S WORDS, 'THE BLUE FLOWER IN HER HAIR MAKES ME THINK OF A HEADPHONE.' COULD THIS BE LOVE? WELL, WE KNOW ONE THING - ALL YOU LADIES OUT THERE WITH BLUE FLOWERS IN YOUR HAIR, BETTER BONE UP ON YOUR HOSTESSING SKILLS!"

VINKALERT looks up from the article, a disturbed expression, containing jealousy, on his face.

VINKALERT

SO THAT WAS IT. THAT LOUSY MARS ZUN LIKED THE BLUE FLOWER IN GOSK'S HAIR. WELL, WHEREVER HE IS, HE JUST BETTER KEEP HIS MARTIAN, HIS MARTIAN EYES OFF OF HER.

35. On Earth, BUEGERT, TUXERT, and DOCKERT are still behind the rock listening to the EARTH STRING QUARTET. Suddenly the issue of The Nation's Enquirer that Vinkalert had in his hand moments before appears in DOCKERT's hand.

DOCKERT

HEY!

The EARTH STRING QUARTET immediately stops playing.

36. Back on the spacecraft, VINKALERT suddenly finds that the issue of The Nation's Enquirer was zapped out of his hand.

VINKALERT

WHAT MADE THAT HAPPEN? NOT THE SAME GLITCH AGAIN?

JONES

WALTERS?

WALTERS

CORRECT. AND I'VE LEARNED SOMETHING ABOUT THE GLITCH THAT NOT EVEN THE MARS ZUNS THEMSELVES KNEW: SOON AFTER THE GLITCH ORIGINATED, IT WAS PERMEATED WITH ENERGY FROM THE MACHINE THEY HAVE FOR TUNING IN ON VIBRATIONS, THEY, LOCATE THINGS TO PUT ON THE MONITOR, BY TUNING IN ON VIBRATIONS. AS A RESULT, THE GLITCH HAS A PRE-TENDENCY TO, AUTOMATICALLY, STUDY THE CONSEQUENCES, IN TERMS OF VIBRATIONS, BEFORE IT DOES ANYTHING.

LOUISE

VIBRATIONS?

A heavenly chorus is momentarily heard (same sound used in "It's A Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World" when "The Big W" is first seen).

WALTERS

WHAT I MEAN IS, IT UH, TRIES TO COORDINATE EVERYBODY'S

VIBRATIONS, BEFORE IT'LL DO ANYTHING. IT, SORT OF DOESN'T WANT TO RUB ANYBODY THE WRONG WAY.

VINKALERT

DOESN'T WANT TO RUB ANYBODY THE WRONG WAY! THEN WHY DID IT SUDDENLY ZAP ME ONTO THIS SPACECRAFT? WHAT MADE IT ZAP THAT PAPER OUT OF MY HAND?

LOUISE

I WAS GETTING A POIM. THEY WUH POIMING MY HAIR (Cut to LOUISE getting her hair permed) WHEN I GOT - ZAPPED HERE. I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU CAN SAY THAT DIDN'T RUB ME THE WRONG WAY, MR. WALTERS! (Cut back to LOUISE in the spacecraft)

WALTERS grows pensive, his expression showing that he's trying to figure out how it might ultimately be possible that Louise being zapped while getting a perm might not have rubbed her the wrong way.

37. On Earth, BUEGERT is trying to grab the Nation's Enquirer away from DOCKERT.

DOCKERT

YOU DON'T EVEN READ THE NATION'S ENQUIRER!

BUEGERT

(Whispering loudly) QUIET! THE STRING QUARTET WILL HEAR YOU.

TUXERT

I THINK THEY DID ALREADY. THEY STOPPED PLAYING AS SOON AS DOCKERT YELLED "HEY!"

BUEGERT

(Still trying to get the paper away from DOCKERT) JUST GIVE ME THE PAPER.

DOCKERT

(As the paper seems about to tear) I ALREADY LET YOU READ IT, NOW
IT'S MY TURN.

BUEGERT

(Intensely) I THINK THERE'S SOMETHING IN THERE ABOUT GOSK!
(DOCKERT immediately lets go of the paper, and appears to be in
some kind of reverie.)

DOCKERT

GOSK?

TUXERT

GOSK?

EARTH STRING QUARTET

GOSK?

DOCKERT, TUXERT, and BUEGERT suddenly notice that the EARTH STRING QUARTET is watching them.

CELLIST

ALL OF THESE PEOPLE HAVE BLUE SKIN.

VIOLINIST

I WAS JUST NOTICING THAT! WHAT IS ALL OF THIS ABOUT?

BUEGERT, stunned at being so close to the EARTH STRING QUARTET, hands the VIOLINIST the copy of The Nation's Enquirer. The EARTH STRING QUARTET gathers around the VIOLINIST and reads the article in silence, as DOCKERT attempts (unsuccessfully) to get close enough to read it as well.

CELLIST

SO WE'RE ON ANOTHER PLANET?

BUEGERT

NO ACTUALLY, WE ARE. FOR SOME REASON THAT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE, AT LEAST IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE WITH WHAT IT SAYS IN THE ARTICLE, INSTEAD OF THERE ONLY BEING ONE EARTHLING LEFT BEHIND ON EARTH, WHICH IS WHAT THE ARTICLE SAYS THE STREET GANG FROM MARS (OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MARS ZUNS) MEANT TO DO, THERE'S ALL OF YOU.

DOCKERT

(Taking the article from the VIOLINIST) LET ME SEE THAT. (DOCKERT reads article while TUXERT reads over his shoulder.)

CELLIST

THAT IS STRANGE. THE ARTICLE DOES SAY THEY ONLY MEANT TO LEAVE ONE PERSON BEHIND. YOU KNOW, I HAPPEN TO KNOW A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THESE MARS ZUNS. THEY HAVE AN EARTH PAPER SIMILAR TO THIS NATION'S ENQUIRER, AND THEY'VE ALSO BEEN HAVING ARTICLES CONCERNING THIS STREET GANG FROM MARS. ONCE I CLIPPED ONE OF THE ARTICLES, IN FACT, THIS IS PERFECT, I HAVE IT RIGHT HERE.

CELLIST begins taking a crumpled up piece of paper out of his pocket as "The Big W" heavenly chorus is heard again momentarily.

EVERYBODY (except CELLIST)

OH!!

CELLIST

(As he continues taking the piece of paper out of his pocket and uncrumpling it) IT'S AS IF FATE HAD PUT ME HERE.

DOCKERT

THE STREET GANG FROM MARS PUT YOU HERE.

CELLIST

LOOK - SEE THAT DIAGRAM? THAT'S WHY I CLIPPED THE ARTICLE. IT GIVES YOU INSTRUCTIONS FOR BUILDING YOUR OWN LITTLE MARTIAN SPACECRAFT. IT'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN MEANING TO DO AS SOON AS I COULD FIND SOME TIME, ALTHOUGH WE'VE BEEN EXTREMELY BUSY

PRACTICING.

VIOLINIST

WE HAVE.

TUXERT

WE'VE BEEN LISTENING TO YOU PLAYING YOUR INSTRUMENTS - FOR DAYS -
AND IT'S THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING WE EVER HEARD!

DOCKERT

MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT, WITH OUR BEING FROM ANOTHER PLANET, WE
WERE MESMERIZED AUTOMATICALLY, NOT THAT I DON'T THINK YOUR
PLAYING WOULD BE BEAUTIFUL, UH, IF WE WERE FROM EARTH.

EARTH STRING QUARTET

THANK YOU. WE GET MESMERIZED OURSELVES.

DOCKERT

NO, WHAT I MEAN IS, THERE'S THIS THING WHERE, IF YOU LISTEN TO MUSIC FROM ANOTHER PLANET (ACCORDING TO WHAT A SCIENTIST SAID IN THE NATION'S ENQUIRER) YOU'LL AUTOMATICALLY GET MESMERIZED.

CELLIST

I SEE.

BUEGERT

BUT IT WAS VERY BEAUTIFUL.

VIOLINIST

OH, THANK YOU.

BUEGERT

CAN I SEE THAT DIAGRAM? (TUXERT passes it from the CELLIST to BUEGERT) SO YOU THINK THAT, BY USING THIS DIAGRAM, WE COULD

ACTUALLY BUILD A LITTLE MARTIAN SPACECRAFT THAT WOULD TAKE US
BACK TO KLUG?

DOCKERT

I DON'T UNDERSTAND, BUEGERT, WHY ALL OF A SUDDEN, EVERYTHING
ABOUT THE NATION'S ENQUIRER MEANS SO MUCH TO YOU. AND WHERE DID
THAT ARTICLE SAY ANYTHING ABOUT GOSK?

BUEGERT

YOU DIDN'T SEE WHERE IT SAID ANYTHING ABOUT GOSK? WHO ELSE, AT
LEAST THAT YOU KNOW OF, WEARS A BLUE FLOWER IN HER HAIR?

DOCKERT

I THOUGHT THAT WAS A GREEN FLOWER.

TUXERT

DON'T YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING?

DOCKERT

THAT WAS ALL AN AWFULLY LONG TIME AGO.

BUEGERT

GOSK ALWAYS SAID THAT IT WAS THE ONLY BLUE FLOWER IN THE WORLD,
WHICH IS WHY HER GRANDFATHER HAD IT CHEMICALLY TREATED TO STAY
PRESERVED LIKE A STUFFED ANIMAL. HOW COULD YOU FORGET SOMETHING
LIKE THAT?

DOCKERT

I REMEMBERED THAT, BUT I THOUGHT IT WAS GREEN.

BUEGERT

BLUE.

TUXERT

BLUE.

BUEGERT

AND VINKALERT USED TO SAY THAT IT WAS MUCH PRETTIER THAN IF SHE WORE A STUFFED ZULG IN HER HAIR. HE SAID THAT ANY TIME THE SUBJECT OF HER BLUE FLOWER CAME UP, I COULDN'T EVEN STAND HEARING HIM SAY THAT AFTER A WHILE.

DOCKERT

A BLUE FLOWER. NOW I REMEMBER.

BUEGERT

NOW YOU THOUGHT VINKALERT MIGHT HAVE BEEN ZAPPED BACK TO KLUG?

DOCKERT

ALL OF A SUDDEN, YOU'RE READY TO CHANGE YOUR MIND ABOUT EVERYTHING I WAS SAYING! JUST BECAUSE THIS ISSUE OF THE NATION'S ENQUIRER GOT ZAPPED INTO MY HAND FROM OUT OF NOWHERE.

CELLIST

THAT'S VERY UNUSUAL.

The other members of the EARTH STRING QUARTET murmur their agreement.

DOCKERT

NOT TO ME. I FIGURED OUT WHAT WAS GOING ON AROUND HERE A LONG TIME AGO. I KNEW WE HAD BEEN SWITCHED TO ANOTHER PLANET. AND WHEN YOU'RE DEALING WITH THE STREET GANG FROM MARS, YOU CAN EXPECT ANYTHING TO GET ZAPPED ANYWHERE AT ANY TIME.

EARTH STRING QUARTET

OH!

BUEGERT

(TO CELLIST) NOW, IF WE BUILD ONE OF THESE LITTLE MARTIAN SPACECRAFTS, FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS CLOSELY, YOU BELIEVE THAT

WE'LL BE ABLE TO FLY BACK TO KLUG?

CELLIST

I WOULDN'T HAVE CLIPPED THE ARTICLE IF I DIDN'T THINK IT COULD BE DONE.

EVERYBODY there gives the CELLIST a strange look except BUEGERT, who looks at him with eyes filled with loving appreciation.

BUEGERT

(With deep solemnity) WE HAVE TO BUILD A LITTLE MARTIAN SPACECRAFT, AND FLY BACK TO KLUG AS SOON AS WE CAN. WHO KNOWS WHAT'S HAPPENING TO VINKALERT THERE?

DOCKERT

(Almost to himself) AND GOSK. (TUXERT looks at DOCKERT, understanding)

BUEGERT

(Strangely) WHAT'S THAT?

DOCKERT

VINKALERT AND GOSK.

BUEGERT looks at DOCKERT strangely. The EARTH STRING QUARTET, DOCKERT and TUXERT all look at BUEGERT the same way.

BUEGERT

ARE WE GOING TO BUILD THE LITTLE MARTIAN SPACECRAFT OR NOT?

TUXERT looks straight into BUEGERT's eyes, as if to snap her out of it, but cannot change BUEGERT's look. TUXERT takes the diagram from BUEGERT and rips it into tiny pieces, as BUEGERT is physically held back from doing anything by DOCKERT and the VIOLINIST. TUXERT scatters the tiny pieces of paper to the wind.

CELLIST

I STILL HAVE A DIAGRAM THAT SHOWS YOU HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN SPACE
HELMET.

38. On Mars, where everything is a little bit different from Klug
or Earth, a Zorpiian, PRETZ, is buying a coffee bean grinder.
Zorpiians have eyes that are like built-in sunglasses in size and
appearance, and have blue hair, but otherwise Zorpiians look like
they're from California.

MARTIAN STORE CLERK

A ZORPIAN! WHAT BRINGS A ZORPIAN ALL THE WAY TO MARS?

PRETZ

WELL, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I JUST CAME TO MARS TO BUY THIS COFFEE
BEAN GRINDER.

MARTIAN STORE CLERK

NO! OUR MARTIAN COFFEE BEAN GRINDERS ARE THAT GOOD?

PRETZ

THAT'S WHAT I HEARD. A FEW WEEKS AGO ONE OF MY CUSTOMERS (I SELL SPACECRAFT BUTTONS ON ZORP) MENTIONED TO ME THAT HIS FRIEND REALLY HATED ZORPIAN COFFEE BEAN GRINDERS, SO I FIGURED HE MUST HAVE HATED ZORPIAN COFFEE BEAN GRINDERS FOR A REASON, THAT MEANS THEY MUST HAVE REALLY GOOD ONES ON MARS, RIGHT?

MARTIAN STORE CLERK

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT. I'VE BEEN SELLING COFFEE BEAN GRINDERS ON MARS A LONG TIME, AND I NEVER NOTICED ANYTHING THAT MADE THEM BETTER THAN ZORPIAN COFFEE BEAN GRINDERS.

PRETZ

WELL, MY CUSTOMER SAID HIS FRIEND HAD A BIG PROBLEM WITH ZORPIAN COFFEE BEAN GRINDERS. PERSONALLY, A COFFEE BEAN GRINDER IS A COFFEE BEAN GRINDER.

MARTIAN STORE CLERK

PROBABLY DIDN'T READ THE INSTRUCTIONS. WE'RE ALWAYS GETTING PEOPLE WHO DON'T READ THE INSTRUCTIONS, WITH ANY APPLIANCE, THEN WE EXPLAIN IT TO THEM, THEN THEY FIND SOME EXCUSE FOR WHY IT DIDN'T MAKE SENSE TO THEM.

PRETZ

IT'LL ACTUALLY BE A GIFT. I HAVE TO CATCH UP WITH MY CUSTOMER AND HIS FRIEND, I SOLD HIM SOME BUTTON THAT TURNS OUT TO HAVE SOMETHING WRONG WITH IT. IT'S SORT OF MY WAY OF APOLOGIZING.

MARTIAN STORE CLERK

SO YOU'RE BUYING THEM A COFFEE BEAN GRINDER?

PRETZ

WELL, IT'S MY WAY OF TRYING TO MAKE UP FOR THE THING THAT'S WRONG WITH THE BUTTON.

MARTIAN STORE CLERK

MUST BE PRETTY BAD.

PRETZ

I GUESS YOU COULD SAY IT COULD... WIPE OUT TWO PLANETS.

MARTIAN STORE CLERK

(Stunned) LET ME THROW IN A FREE POUND OF COFFEE.

39. On the spacecraft, everyone is engrossed in reading The Nation's Enquirer, except VINKALERT, who is trying to get the controls of the spacecraft to respond to him, unsuccessfully.

LOUISE

(While reading) WE HAVE A PAPER LIKE THIS ON OITH, BUT I STOPPED READING IT AFTER THEY DID AN ARTICLE ABOUT A FILM CREW FALLING OFF THE EDGE OF THE WOYULD WHILE FILMING THE STORY OF COLUMBUS.

IT JUST DIDN'T MAKE ENOUGH SENSE TO ME.

VINKALERT

COLUMBUS?

JONES

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO THERE, VINKALERT?

VINKALERT

TRYING TO GET CONTROL OF, AT LEAST ONE OF THESE THINGS HERE.

JONES

WE TRIED, IT'S ALL ON AUTOMATIC, YOU WON'T GET ANYTHING TO BUDGE.

HARRIET

I USED TO READ THE ONE THEY HAVE ON OITH, TOO. THEN THEY DID AN

ARTICLE ABOUT THE MEN THEY HAVE WOIKING THEIR PRINTING MACHINERY. IT SAID THEY WERE ALL ENGAGED TO MARRY MADONNA, EVERY ONE OF THEM, AT ONE BIG WEDDING, ALL ON THE SAME NIGHT, AND AFTER THAT IT COST EIGHTEEN DOLLARS EACH ISSUE, BECAUSE THEY SAID IT WAS A CELEBRITY ARTIFACT ON ACCOUNT OF THAT, ON ACCOUNT OF THE MEN WOIKING THE PRINTING MACHINERY FOR THE PAPER.

LOUISE

THEY WERE ALL ENGAGED TO HER AT THE SAME TIME?

HARRIET

THEY DIDN'T STOP CALLING EVERY ISSUE A CELEBRITY ARTIFACT UNTIL THEY FOUND OUT IT WAS JUST SOME TRANSEXUAL DRESSED UP TO LOOK LIKE MADONNA, BUT I STOPPED READING IT ANYWAY. THAT WASN'T THE ONLY ERROR THEY MADE, YOU KNOW... (HARRIET notices photograph on wall of spacecraft of DERP shaking hands with Elvis Presley.)

VINKALERT

HERE'S SOMETHING. I HIT THIS BUTTON AND THE WORDS ON THIS

COMPUTER SCREEN CHANGED.

JONES

LET ME SEE THAT. (JONES and WALTERS go to where VINKALERT is.)

VINKALERT

SEE? I HIT THIS BUTTON AND INSTEAD OF JUST SHOWING THE WORDS "INITIAL TRANSFER", IT SAYS, "FURTHER INVESTIGATION INDICATES THIS IS A FALSIFIED TRANSFER DOCUMENT. REGARD ALL TRANSFEREES AS DESERTERS."

WALTERS

DESERTERS? THAT'S A MILITARY EXPRESSION.

VINKALERT

SO I WAS ABLE TO GET ONE OF THESE MACHINES OFF OF AUTOMATIC.

LOUISE

I JUST WISH WE HAD A WAY TO MAKE COFFEE.

40. PRETZ is flying through outerspace in a small spacecraft, the coffee bean grinder on the seat next to him, in a box wrapped up in nice wrapping paper with a nice ribbon. PRETZ glances at it and smiles. Then suddenly there seems to be something disturbing in the back of his mind, eroding his smile. After a few moments he operates a small radar-like device, zeroing in on the whereabouts of the Mars Zuns spacecraft. He manuevers his spacecraft to a landing on top of the Mars Zuns spacecraft, opens a trap door in the bottom of his spacecraft, opens a trap door in the top of the Mars Zuns spacecraft, and jumps, landing on his feet, into the middle of the interior of the Mars Zuns spacecraft, wrapped up coffee bean grinder in hand. PRETZ's expression immediately changes from a slightly shallow smile to a serious frown when he sees that the spacecraft is not occupied by the Mars Zuns.

PRETZ

(Pause) OH. UM, IS DERP HERE?

WALTERS

YOU'RE LOOKING FOR DERP, THE MARS ZUN?

PRETZ

RIGHT.

WALTERS

THE MARS ZUNS AREN'T HERE. THEY'VE BEEN ZAPPED ONTO SOME PLANET,
WE BELIEVE.

PRETZ

WHAT'S THAT? YOU SAY THEY'VE BEEN...

WALTERS

ZAPPED ONTO ANOTHER PLANET. MAYBE YOU COULD ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS
FOR US. WE FOUND ALL OF THESE NEWSPAPERS, AND WE'RE TRYING TO

FIGURE OUT EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED, WE HAVE A PROBLEM, YOU SEE EVERYBODY'S BEEN ZAPPED ONTO ANOTHER PLANET, NOT JUST THE MARS ZUNS.

PRETZ

OH YES! THAT'S THE "POPULATION MOVER" BUTTON I SOLD DERP! GLAD TO HEAR EVERYTHING WORKED OUT OKAY WITH THAT!

JONES

NO, UM, YOU SEE IT'S QUITE A MESS.

PRETZ

THAT'S THE IDEA OF IT, THAT'S WHAT DERP PAID FOR. WHO ARE ALL OF YOU, THOUGH? HE'S HAVING YOU MIND THE SPACECRAFT WHILE THEY'RE GONE? THAT REMINDS ME, I NEED TO CORRECT SOMETHING WHILE I'M HERE. IT COULD ACTUALLY DO SOMETHING TERRIBLE IF I DON'T FIX IT.

JONES

WHAT'S THAT?

PRETZ

MAYBE I SHOULD FIX IT FIRST. IT PROBABLY WON'T DO ANYTHING, BUT
THERE IS THAT POSSIBILITY THE LONGER I WAIT TO TAKE CARE OF IT.

LOUISE

TAKE CARE OF WHAT?

PRETZ

OKAY, I'LL EXPLAIN IT TO YOU QUICKLY. YOU KNOW THE WAY THE
"POPULATION MOVER" BUTTON IS MILITARY EQUIPMENT?

LOUISE

WHAT'S THE "POPULATION MOVER" BUTTON?

WALTERS

BETTER EXPLAIN IT TO ME.

PRETZ

SO AS MILITARY EQUIPMENT, IT CAN ONLY BE PROGRAMMED AS IF...

As they speak, on the monitor, the same KLUGIAN is still trying to break into the Earth car. Suddenly little blue pellets in an orange beam of light start coming out of the sky. When they land a colored gas comes out, causing the KLUGIAN to fall unconscious on the hood of the car. LOUISE then notices the monitor.

LOUISE

(Laughing and pointing at the KLUGIAN, then whispering to HARRIET) HE FINALLY GAVE UP.

HARRIET

MY COUSIN FRANKIE WOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN UP IF IT TOOK HIM A WEEK.

LOUISE

YOUR COUSIN FRANKIE GOES AROUND... WELL, ANYWAY, THIS GUY HERE,
HE WAS TRYING TO BREAK INTO A CAR FROM A DIFFERENT PLANET THAN
THE KIND HE'S ACCUSTOMED TO.

HARRIET

I DON'T CARE. COUSIN FRANKIE STILL WOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN UP.

PRETZ

AND SO, EVERYBODY ON THE TWO PLANETS THAT WERE SWITCHED IS
REGARDED BY THE BUTTON AS MILITARY DESERTERS, HAVING USED
FALSIFIED TRANSFERS TO ESCAPE THEIR REGIMENT.

VINKALERT

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? WHO CARES WHAT THE BUTTON THINKS?

PRETZ

IT DEPENDS. IF IT'S ONE OF THE REALLY OLD "POPULATION MOVER" BUTTONS, IT'LL EVENTUALLY ATTACK THE DESERTERS WITH GAS CONTAINED IN LITTLE PELLETS, KNOCKING THEM UNCONSCIOUS INDEFINITELY, UNTIL AN ANTIDOTE IS ADMINISTERED...

WALTERS

HMM. AND WHAT HAPPENS IF IT'S ONE OF THE NEW "POPULATION MOVER" BUTTONS?

PRETZ

IF IT'S ONE OF THE NEWER ONES, IT TURNS THE DESERTERS INTO AUTOMOBILES, THROUGH SOME, STRANGE CHEMICAL INTERACTION WITH THEIR METABOLISM, DON'T ASK ME HOW IT WORKS.

LOUISE

TOINS THEM INTO AUTOMOBILES? THAT'S TERRIBLE.

PRETZ

NOW REALLY, I THINK I BETTER FIX THE BUTTON BEFORE ONE MORE MOMENT IS LOST. I'VE ALREADY MADE THE MISTAKE OF NOT CATCHING IT SOONER.

HARRIET

HAVE I DRIVEN IN ONE OF THESE PEOPLE? YOU KNOW, I ONCE HAD A CAR THAT DIDN'T FEEL RIGHT. AND IT WAS RIGHT AROUND THE SAME TIME I BOUGHT IT THAT NOBODY KNEW WHAT HAPPENED TO MY DOG, PLOOCHIE.

LOUISE

YOU THINK THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED TO PLOOCHIE? (HARRIET nods her head mournfully.)

In some part of the inner workings of the spacecraft, a package with more pellets is being moved by machinery through the machinery, into the "aim and zap" cannon. A small door in front of the cannon slides open, and the cannon starts to make a noise. Inside the part of the spacecraft where the people are, PRETZ is putting a new form into the computer whose screen had read, "Further Investigation Indicates This Is A Falsified Transfer Document. Regard All Transferees As Deserters". Pretz's new form

causes the computer screen to suddenly read, "Everything Okay With Transferees. Full Pardon For Practical Joke On General Ferdge". In the other part of the spacecraft, the little sliding door in front of the cannon closes, and the noise the cannon was making comes to a sudden stop.

JONES

SO NOW, IT THINKS THAT EVERYBODY ON THE ENTIRE PLANETS OF EARTH AND KLUG IS, A PART OF A PRACTICAL JOKE ON THIS, GENERAL FERDGE.

PRETZ

(Beaming) AND THAT THEY'RE ALL MEMBERS OF GENERAL FERDGE'S WIFE'S UNCLE'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY. EVERYBODY FROM EARTH AND KLUG, PART OF HIS IMMEDIATE FAMILY. THIS GENERAL FERDGE? HE ACTUALLY DIED FOURTEEN HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

WALTERS

WELL!

PRETZ

I MYSELF THOUGHT UP THAT PROGRAM.

VINKALERT

THAT'S, UH, A REALLY CLEVER WAY TO, UH...

PRETZ

IT'S INTERESTING. FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND, THINGS IN THE MARTIAN MILITARY (EVEN THOUGH I'M FROM ZORP THIS IS ALL MARTIAN EQUIPMENT) HAVEN'T REALLY CHANGED THAT MUCH IN FOURTEEN HUNDRED YEARS.

JONES

(Noticing the KLUGIAN on the monitor, unconscious on the hood of the Earth car) WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM?

LOUISE

HE FINALLY GAVE UP TRYING TO BREAK INTO THE CAR. ME AND HARRIET WERE TALKING ABOUT HIM.

WALTERS

HE LOOKS UNCONSCIOUS TO ME.

PRETZ

UH-OH, LOOKS LIKE SOME OF THE PELLETS GOT OUT BEFORE I TOLD THE COMPUTER IT WAS ALL A PRACTICAL JOKE... YOU KNOW THIS ISN'T JUST MY FAULT. WHEN ME AND DERP WERE INSTALLING THE "AIM AND ZAP" CANNON THAT GOES WITH THE "POPULATION MOVER" BUTTON WE BOTH SHOULD HAVE NOTICED THAT IT MIGHT HAVE CONTAINED, SOME FEATURES THAT WEREN'T... THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN UH... NULLIFIED. RIGHT? HE COULD HAVE WONDERED ABOUT THE "AIM AND ZAP" CANNON ACCESSORY AS EASILY AS ME. RIGHT?

LOUISE

RIGHT.

HARRIET

RIGHT.

PRETZ

BUT DERP LOVES ACCESSORIES. EVEN HIS ACCESSORIES HAVE
ACCESSORIES. ONCE HE HAD A - I KNOW WHAT TO DO THOUGH.
FORTUNATELY IT TURNS OUT TO BE ONE OF THE OLDER "POPULATION
MOVER" BUTTONS, SO THE PELLETS JUST MADE HIM UNCONSCIOUS
INDEFINITELY. AS OPPOSED TO TURNING HIM INTO A CAR.

HARRIET

I REMEMBER THAT PART.

LOUISE

ME TOO.

PRETZ

LET'S SEE... I'LL MAKE A COMPUTER PROGRAM ABOUT... GENERAL FERDGE'S WIFE'S UNCLE'S FAMILY BEING ABOUT TO SUE THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE DAMAGE IT DID. MAYBE I'LL SAY IT TURNED HER UNCLE'S FAMILY INTO CARS, THAT'LL GET IT ACTIVATED. NO, THEN WE'LL GET THE WRONG ANTIDOTE...

In no time PRETZ is creating and applying a program. In response, the computer screen reads, "Mutiny!" PRETZ quickly changes the program to read, "Members of the family of General Ferdge's Wife's Uncle unable to attend important wedding due to inadvertantly being rendered unconscious indefinitely by the 'Population Mover' button. General Ferdge extremely upset by their absence. Please advise." A moment later in the other part of the spacecraft, the little sliding door in front of the "aim and zap" cannon opens, the cannon makes a noise, but this time bright green pellets zap out along an orange beam of light. The computer screen now reads, "Sorry for inconvenience. Antidote now being applied. Hope General Ferdge enjoys the wedding. Not too much punch, General!" On the monitor the KLUGIAN is lying unconscious on the hood of the car. Some bright green pellets on an orange beam of light land near him, creating a colored gas. The KLUGIAN wakes up, momentarily gets his bearings, and returns to trying to break into the Earth car.

JONES

SO NOW NOBODY IS A DESERTER?

PRETZ

JUST A BUNCH OF PRACTICAL JOKERS, AS FAR AS THE COMPUTER IS
CONCERNED. WELL, I GUESS I'LL BE ON MY WAY - BE SURE TO SEE THAT
MY GIFT (indicating wrapped up box) GETS TO DERP AND THE MARS
ZUNS.

LOUISE

TAKE CARE, NOW.

HARRIET

BYE, BYE!

WALTERS

UM, WAIT! I MEAN, EXCUSE ME, BUT I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD

ALSO DO ONE LAST THING BEFORE YOU LEAVE?

PRETZ

SURE, WHAT'S THAT?

JONES

(Whispering to VINKALERT) I'M GLAD HE REMEMBERED, IT COMPLETELY
SLIPPED MY MIND. (VINKALERT nods his head)

WALTERS

WE WERE WONDERING IF YOU COULD SWITCH EVERYBODY BACK TO THE
PLANET THEY BELONG ON?

PRETZ

WELL, YOU SEE... I'M SORT OF NOT SUPPOSED TO DO THAT WITHOUT
DERP'S PERMISSION, HE, KIND OF PAID FOR THE BUTTON AND
EVERYTHING.

VINKALERT

THAT'S ANOTHER THING WE FORGOT! COULD YOU HELP US LOCATE DERP AND THE OTHER MARS ZUNS? THEY'VE COMPLETELY VANISHED. WE WANT TO GIVE THEM THEIR SPACECRAFT BACK. (WALTERS gives VINKALERT an aggravated look)

PRETZ

I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTAND. I THOUGHT YOU WERE MINDING THEIR SPACECRAFT FOR THEM.

LOUISE

NO!! THEY GOT GLITCHED AWAY, RIGHT?

WALTERS

WE NEGLECTED TO MENTION, THEIR SEEMS TO BE A GLITCH HERE THAT, GOES AROUND, IT TUNES IN ON PEOPLE'S VIBRATIONS - AND THEN TRIES TO MAKE EVERYTHING...

VINKALERT

I THINK WHAT WALTERS IS TRYING TO SAY IS THAT, HE BELIEVES THIS GLITCH AUTOMATICALLY DOES THINGS THAT WON'T... RUB PEOPLE THE WRONG WAY - ONLY I SAY IT DOES. FIRST OF ALL, IT'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FACT THAT I'M HERE. SECOND, IT'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FACT THAT -

PRETZ

A GLITCH TUNING IN ON PEOPLE'S VIBRATIONS? I ALWAYS SAID THE MARS ZUNS' SPACE EQUIPMENT WOULD SOMEDAY START GIVING BIRTH TO EQUIPMENT OF ITS OWN. YOU KNOW, I DESERVE A GOOD PART OF THE CREDIT. I'VE SOLD THEM SOME STUFF NOBODY IN THE, WELL AT LEAST NOBODY IN THE GALAXY HAS. STUFF THAT'S BEEN FORBIDDEN SINCE... YOU KNOW THAT "POPULATION MOVER" BUTTON? IT'S BEEN FORBIDDEN FOR OVER A THOUSAND YEARS!

WALTERS

THAT'S GREAT, BUT, NOW, YOU SAY YOU WON'T SWITCH EVERYBODY BACK TO THE PLANET THEY BELONG ON, UNTIL THIS, THIS DERP FELLOW GIVES PERMISSION?

PRETZ

IT'LL JUST TAKE ME A SECOND TO FIND HIM. (TO VINKALERT) YOU WERE SAYING THIS GLITCH ZAPPED THE MARS ZUNS SOMEWHERE?

VINKALERT

WE'RE ASSUMING THE GLITCH DIDN'T JUST MAKE THEM VANISH PERIOD. WALTERS SAYS THE GLITCH ONLY DOES GOOD THINGS, DESIGNED NOT TO RUB ANYBODY THE WRONG WAY, BUT PERSONALLY, I DON'T THINK THE GLITCH WAS BEING SO SENSITIVE TO MY VIBRATIONS WHEN IT ZAPPED ME INTO THIS PLACE, AND I'LL TELL YOU WHAT ELSE IT DID -

PRETZ

I SHOULD BE ABLE TO LOCATE THEM WITHOUT TOO MUCH TROUBLE, JUDGING FROM (TO WALTERS) YOUR DESCRIPTION OF THIS GLITCH. IT SOUNDS VERY SIMILAR TO MY GIRLFRIEND, ALWAYS TRYING TO HELP, ALWAYS GETTING IN THE WAY.

VINKALERT

THAT'S HOW I WOULD DESCRIBE IT.

PRETZ

(Sitting down in front of a control panel) YEAH, I DON'T THINK WE'RE GOING TO BE TOGETHER MUCH LONGER. SHE'S TOO... OKAY, LET ME PLAY WITH THESE KNOBS A LITTLE. I'LL FIND THE MARS ZUNS, AND IF DERP SAYS IT'S OKAY...

WALTERS

I DON'T WISH TO BE RUDE, BUT I DON'T SEE WHY THE MARS ZUNS, WHY DERP, HAS TO SAY IT'S OKAY BEFORE YOU SWITCH EVERYBODY BACK TO THE PLANET THEY BELONG ON!

PRETZ

I DON'T SEE YOUR POINT.

HARRIET

NEITHER DO I. IT'S DERP'S BUTTON.

LOUISE

HARRIET...

HARRIET

WELL IT IS.

VINKALERT

LET'S JUST FIND DERP. WE ALL READ ABOUT HIM IN THE NATION'S
ENQUIRER, I THINK WE CAN SAY WE ALL KNOW A LITTLE BIT ABOUT HIM.
I'M SURE THAT AS SOON AS WE EXPLAIN TO HIM... HOW UPSET EVERYBODY
IS - TO BE ON THE WRONG PLANET, HE'LL SWITCH EVERYBODY BACK.

WALTERS

WELL, I'M NOT SO SURE.

PRETZ

AND, THERE THEY ARE, ONE MINUTE LATER, ON THE MONITOR! PRETTY

GOOD, HUH?

LOUISE

LOOK, HARRIET, IT'S THE GIRLS!

HARRIET

AND LOOK AT WHAT THEY'RE DOING! HOW DID YOU FIND THEM?

PRETZ

(Studying the image of the MARS ZUNS with the EARTH GIRLS) THOSE ARE YOUR FRIENDS, WITH THE MARS ZUNS? I GUESS THE GLITCH DESIGNED IT, SO THAT THE MARS ZUNS WOULD WIND UP, WITH, YOU SAY THE GLITCH DESIGNS THINGS SO THAT, THE GLITCH WON'T DO ANYTHING THAT INTERFERES WITH ANYBODY'S VIBRATIONS? THEN, LET ME SEE, I GUESS THE REASON IT PUT THE MARS ZUNS WITH YOUR FRIENDS WOULD BE...

41. On Klug, the four MARS ZUNS are lying with their heads on the laps of the three EARTH GIRLS who had been swimming their row

boat to shore. The EARTH GIRLS are dropping strange Klugian fruit that strongly resembles grapes into the mouths of the MARS ZUNS.

DERP

I JUST WANT TO SAY, WE MARS ZUNS SURE ARE LUCKY YOU EARTH GIRLS APPEARED FROM OUT OF NOWHERE THE WAY YOU DID.

SWERP

WITHOUT YOU GIRLS, RIGHT NOW OUR HEADS WOULD BE IN A ROW BOAT INSTEAD OF WHERE THEY ARE.

DORIS

BUT WITHOUT YOU MARS ZUNS, WHERE WOULD WE BE?

ROXANNE

WE WOULDN'T EVEN KNOW THIS STUFF WAS EDIBLE.

ETHEL

YOU SAY YOU'RE THE STREET GANG FROM MOZ? THE MOSHINS?

CLERP

NOT MOSHINS, MARS ZUNS.

ETHEL

MOZ ZUNS.

CLERP

NO, MARS ZUNS.

ETHEL

MOZ ZUNS.

DORIS

I'D GIVE UP, CLOIP. THAT'S AS CLOSE AS SHE'S GONNA COME.

ROXANNE

HEY! MAYBE IF YOU'RE THE STREET GANG FROM MOZ, MAYBE YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR FRIENDS, LOUISE AND HARRIET. THEY WERE RIGHT NEXT TO US AND THEN THEY GOT ZAPPED, ALL OF A SUDDEN.

ETHEL

SEVERAL DAYS AGO.

DORIS

(Nodding in agreement) SEVERAL DAYS AGO. IN THE AFTERNOON.

JERP

LADIES, IT SOUNDS TO ME LIKE YOUR FRIENDS ARE THE POOR, UNFORTUNATE VICTIMS OF THE INSIDIOUS QUALITY OF ZORPIAN

EQUIPMENT. APPARENTLY, ALTHOUGH IT WAS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE BUTTON WE PURCHASED WOULD ONLY SWITCH EVERYBODY FROM KLUG TO EARTH AND VICE VERSA, IT SEEMS TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR A GOOD MANY OTHER OCCURRANCES. I TOLD DERP NOT TO BUY ANY MORE ZORPIAN EQUIPMENT, WE HAD A COFFEE BEAN GRINDER THAT -

DERP

IT SOUNDS TO ME LIKE THE GLITCH.

JERP

OH SURE, BLAME THE GLITCH. LADIES, IT'S A KNOWN FACT THAT EVERYTHING THAT COMES FROM ZORP -

CLERP

IT SOUNDS LIKE THE GLITCH TO ME TOO. AND IT SOUNDS LIKE IT HAPPENED RIGHT AROUND THE SAME TIME AS WE GOT ZAPPED HERE.

DORIS

WHO IS THIS GUY, "THE GLITCH"? CAN WE ASK "THE GLITCH" TO SEND LOUISE AND HARRIET BACK? I'M SURE HE DOESN'T REALLY NEED THEM.

DERP

NO, YOU SEE, THE GLITCH IS, IT'S THIS THING IN THE MACHINERY, IN OUR SPACECRAFT, IT'S AN ERROR, AND IT'S MESSING EVERYTHING UP, IT'S, RE-ARRANGING OUR WHOLE IDEA, OF SWITCHING EVERYBODY FROM ONE PLANET TO ANOTHER, WHILE LEAVING BEHIND ONE PERSON ON EACH PLANET, YOU SEE, WHO, UM, YOU REMEMBER, WE WERE EXPLAINING ALL THIS BEFORE.

ROXANNE

I REMEMBER, MOST OF IT ANYWAY. I REALLY ENJOYED THE PART ABOUT THE WATER. COULD YOU DESCRIBE THAT PART AGAIN ABOUT WATER BEING FORBIDDEN ON MOZ? WHEN I THINK OF MY FRIEND HARRY, HE HATES ANY WATER THAT ISN'T BOTTLED WATER, WHILE YOU GUYS UP THERE ON MOZ HATE ALL WATER, I THINK, WAIT'LL I TELL HARRY THIS ONE.

42. On the spacecraft, the scene with the MARS ZUNS and the EARTH GIRLS is being watched on the monitor.

PRETZ

GIVE ME ONE MINUTE AND I SHOULD HAVE THEM ALL ABOARD.

HARRIET

REALLY? THEY'LL BE HERE?

PRETZ

(Nodding) NOW. ASK ME ABOUT ANYTHING ON THIS CONTROL PANEL. I PROBABLY KNOW MORE ABOUT THIS SPACECRAFT THAN ANYBODY, INCLUDING THE MARS ZUNS - COULD PROBABLY HAVE YOU ALL AT MY MERCY IN FIVE MINUTES! GO AHEAD, ASK ME ABOUT ANYTHING ON THE CONTROL PANEL. (Pause) OR ANYTHING ABOUT HOW THE "POPULATION MOVER" BUTTON WORKS. WHILE WE'RE WAITING.

LOUISE

(Short pause) OKAY... HOW DO YOU GET THE KETCHUP, BACK INTO THE KETCHUP BOTTLE, ONCE MUSTARD COMES OUT, ON ACCOUNT OF IT BEING A KETCHUP BOTTLE ON KLUG INSTEAD OF OITH?

PRETZ

(While pushing buttons) I SEE, YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT KETCHUP...
I THINK I KNOW JUST HOW TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION...

43. PRETZ continues hitting buttons rapidly. Suddenly the entire group of MARS ZUNS and EARTH GIRLS are inside the spacecraft. ROXANNE arrives with a bottle of ketchup in her hand.

ROXANNE

(Holding up the ketchup bottle in surprise a moment after getting her bearings) LOOK, A BOTTLE OF KETCHUP!

WALTERS

(Looking nervously at the new arrivals) THAT WAS, PRETTY GOOD.

PRETZ

MARS ZUNS!

DERP, CLERP, AND SWERP

(Enthusiastically) PRETZ!

JERP

(Unenthusiastically) PRETZ.

DORIS

IS THAT YOU, LOUISE?

LOUISE

DORIS!

ETHEL

HARRIET?

ROXANNE

LOUISE!

The EARTH GIRLS all hug eachother emotionally.

LOUISE

(Taking the ketchup bottle from ROXANNE and handing it to PRETZ)
VERY GOOD!

PRETZ

DON'T FORGET, KETCHUP HAS A VIBRATION. ALL THINGS (AND THIS GOES
FOR ALL THINGS THAT HAVE EVER BEEN ALIVE) CARRY A "ZIG-BAM"
VIBRATION. AND THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE TO KNOW TO ZERO IN ON A BOTTLE
OF KETCHUP!

CLERP

YES, BUT THE QUESTION IS, HOW WERE YOU ABLE TO FIND THAT

VIBRATION? THAT'S A PRETTY FAINT VIBRATION.

PRETZ

NOT WHEN YOU'RE CONNECTING THE XRRT CONTROL PANEL, Z THRU 48,300
CODES TO THE CORRELATING ONES IN THE ASD CONTROL PANEL.

CLERP

THE ASD CONTROL PANEL, FROM THE KITCHEN...

PRETZ

OF COURSE I HAVEN'T YET ANSWERED LOUISE'S QUESTION. LOUISE ASKED
A QUESTION BEFORE ALL OF YOU NEWCOMERS ARRIVED. LOUISE, YOU
WANTED TO KNOW HOW YOU GET THE KETCHUP BACK INTO THE...

WALTERS

ACTUALLY, MAYBE IT WOULD BE BETTER IF RIGHT NOW WE WERE TO
CONCENTRATE ON THE QUESTION OF SWITCHING EVERYBODY FROM EARTH
BACK TO EARTH.

PRETZ

DERP, IS THAT ALRIGHT WITH YOU?

DERP

SURE, GO AHEAD.

VINKALERT

KNEW IT.

PRETZ

OKAY, THAT'S SETTLED. BUT FIRST CAN I SHOW YOU A FEW OF THE THINGS THAT CAN BE DONE WITH THIS SPACECRAFT, IF YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING WITH IT LIKE I DO? YOU CAN'T ARGUE WITH THAT STATEMENT, CAN YOU, DERP?

DERP

HE'S RIGHT ABOUT THAT. THIS GUY HERE, HE PRACTICALLY INVENTED
HALF OF THE BUTTONS IN HERE.

PRETZ

WELL, I WOULDN'T SAY THAT.

CLERP

HE'S JUST BEING MODEST.

PRETZ

OH THAT REMINDS ME, I BOUGHT YOU MARS ZUNS A GIFT. AND I SUPPOSE
YOU'LL ALL BE WANTING ME TO FIX THIS GLITCH I'VE BEEN HEARING
ABOUT.

PRETZ hands the gift to JERP, who accepts it slightly warily,
then unwraps it while the others continue talking.

DERP

THAT WOULD BE GOOD. BY THE WAY, WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE?

PRETZ

YOU KNOW, I'M SORT OF EMBARRASSED TO SAY. THE "POPULATION MOVER" BUTTON? TURNS OUT I SOLD YOU AN OLD PROGRAM, MADE THE COMPUTER THINK EVERYBODY YOU SWITCHED WAS SOME KIND OF MILITARY DESERTER. AS SOON AS I FIGURED THAT ONE OUT I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN. (JERP, upon discovering the gift is a coffee bean grinder, eyes PRETZ suspiciously. PRETZ addresses himself to JERP) IT'S FROM MARS. (JERP immediately relaxes. PRETZ now redirects his attention back to everybody else.) ANYWAY, I FIXED IT, EVERYTHING'S BACK TO NORMAL, IT JUST THINKS EVERYONE YOU SWITCHED IS SOME SORT OF PRACTICAL JOKER, INSTEAD OF A DESERTER.

WALTERS

SPEAKING OF THINGS BEING BACK TO NORMAL, WE'RE A LITTLE ANXIOUS TO RETURN TO, WHEREVER, RIGHT?

Everyone on the spacecraft mumbles their agreement, but sound less than wildly enthusiastic.

PRETZ

I WAS HOPING I COULD JUST SHOW EVERYBODY A FEW THINGS I CAN MAKE THIS SPACECRAFT DO, FIRST. IT'LL ONLY TAKE A MINUTE.

WALTERS

COULDN'T YOU DO THAT AFTER YOU SWITCH EVERYBODY BACK?

PRETZ

I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT...

LOUISE

OH, GO ON, PRETZ. C'MON EVERYBODY, LET HIM SHOW US SOME OUTER-SPACE STUFF FIRST!

The general response is in agreement with LOUISE.

WALTERS

ALRIGHT, BUT FIRST PROMISE THAT WHEN YOU'RE DONE YOU WON'T FORGET TO SWITCH EVERYBODY IN THE WORLD BACK TO THE PLANET THEY BELONG ON.

PRETZ

PROMISE. NOW THEN, I'LL START OFF WITH... HOW ABOUT MY BOWLING PIN TRICK? THIS IS REALLY GOOD.

DORIS

(Whispering to ROXANNE) THIS OUGHTA BE SOMETHING. WHEN SOMEBODY CAN JUGGLE BOWLING PINS - THERE'S NOTHING LIKE IT.

PRETZ excitedly hits some buttons while rapidly finding ends of wires and re-connecting them to other wires. Momentarily an Earth bowling alley materializes on the monitor. We see groups of KLUGIANS sitting around with their legs crossed at the end of each bowling lane, each Klugian with a bowling pin in their hand, chanting and banging the bowling pin on the ground.

PRETZ

I DIDN'T KNOW THEY'D BE DOING THAT WITH THE BOWLING PINS. I
THOUGHT EVERYBODY EVERYWHERE KNEW ABOUT BOWLING.

HARRIET

NOT MY LITTLE SISTER CATHERINE. PUTTING A BOWLING BALL IN HER
HAND IS THE SAME THING AS ROLLING IT DOWN THE GUTTUH. WHAT I MEAN
IS, SHE ALWAYS BOWLS IT DOWN THE GUTTUH.

ROXANNE

I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN. I USED TO BE LIKE THAT, THEN I STARTED
GOING OUT WITH FRANKIE -

HARRIET

(addressing herself to everybody on the spacecraft who isn't an
Earth Girl) MY COUSIN FRANKIE.

ROXANNE

RIGHT, AND HE TAUGHT ME HOW TO BOWL GOOD. NOW I GET OVER NINETY,

AND BEFORE I WAS GOING OUT WITH HIM -

PRETZ

I GUESS I CAN JUST AS EASILY ZAP A BOWLING PIN AWAY FROM SOMEBODY
BANGING IT ON THE GROUND.

VINKALERT

THEY SEEM TO BE USING IT IN PLACE OF A GUMPA, THAT'S A RELIGIOUS
STICK SEEN VERY RARELY ON KLUG. THEY USE IT ONLY WHEN THERE IS A
GREAT EMERGENCY, ONE THAT REMINDS THE LEADERS OF AN EMERGENCY
LONG AGO IN OUR HISTORY. THEY BANG THE GUMPA ON THE GROUND AND
CHANT, JUST THE WAY THOSE KLUGIANS ARE, ONLY THEY'RE USING A
BOWLING PIN IN PLACE OF A GUMPA.

LOUISE

THEY'RE PROBABLY UPSET ABOUT BEING SWITCHED TO ANOTHER PLANET.

PRETZ

AND, HERE... WE... ARE!

A bowling pin suddenly materializes into DERP's hand, while ROXANNE materializes in the bowling alley. The KLUGIAN who formerly had been banging the bowling pin that is now in DERP's hand is stunned that his hand is now empty. The other KLUGIANS in his group look at him in surprise while continuing to chant.

KLUGIAN

(Loud enough to be heard above the chanting) I MUST HAVE LOST IT!

Back on the spacecraft, the MARS ZUNS are all delighted that the bowling pin is now in DERP's hand, while LOUISE, HARRIET, and ETHEL are delighted that ROXANNE is now in the bowling alley. DORIS seems unimpressed, which visibly disturbs PRETZ.

LOUISE

THAT WAS TERRIFIC! CAN SHE HEAR US THERE IN THE BOWLING ALLEY?
HEY ROXANNE, LET'S SEE A STRIKE!

ROXANNE seems a little bit frightened to be in a bowling alley surrounded by KLUGIANS banging bowling pins on the ground and chanting. ROXANNE looks around as if trying to locate the spacecraft camera on her, trying to indicate, with improvised sign language, that she would like to be returned to the spacecraft.

VINKALERT

THIS REALLY IS... SOMETHING.

DERP

LOOK AT THIS, A BOWLING PIN! TELL ME HOW YOU DID IT, PRETZ!

PRETZ

I GOT THE COMPUTER TO ACTUALLY THINK I'M BOWLING!

SWERP

IT THINKS - YOU'RE BOWLING? THAT'S INCREDIBLE!

DORIS

(Disappointed) THAT'S IT? THIS IS WHAT YOU MEAN BY JUGGLING
BOWLING PINS?

WALTERS

CAN WE SWITCH EVERYBODY BACK TO THE PLANET THEY BELONG ON NOW?

PRETZ

I GUESS MAYBE IT'S TIME TO GO AHEAD AND DO THAT.

CLERP

AND DON'T FORGET YOU ALSO PROMISED TO FIX THE GLITCH.

PRETZ

RIGHT, FIRST I'LL -

WALTERS

SWITCH EVERYBODY BACK TO THE RIGHT PLANET.

PRETZ

HMM? RIGHT, SWITCH EVERYBODY BACK, THEN FIX THE GLITCH. LET'S
SEE... (PRETZ starts re-wiring a few things)

DORIS

I ONCE SAW SOMEBODY JUGGLE SIX BOWLING PINS, WITHOUT A
SPACECRAFT.

PRETZ

(Continuing to re-wire, while momentarily nobody speaks) FOR THIS
THING I'LL BE DOING NOW, I'M GOING TO MAKE IT JUST A LITTLE BIT
INTERESTING. AT THE EXACT SAME PRECISE MOMENT THAT EVERYBODY ON
THE ENTIRE PLANET OF EARTH IS BEING SWITCHED BACK TO EARTH FROM
KLUG, AND EVERYBODY FROM KLUG IS BEING SWITCHED BACK TO KLUG FROM
EARTH, AT THAT SAME MOMENT, THAT BOWLING PIN, IN DERP'S HAND,
WILL SUDDENLY MATERIALIZE INTO THE HAND OF THE KLUGIAN WHO WAS

BANGING IT ON THE GROUND, RIGHT WHILE HE'S BEING SWITCHED BACK TO KLUG. AND AT THE SAME PRECISE MOMENT, YOUR EARTH FRIEND WILL BE SWITCHED BACK INTO THIS SPACECRAFT. AND IN ADDITION TO THAT, THE ONLY THING THAT WILL BE DIFFERENT ABOUT THE BOWLING ALLEY AFTER ALL OF THIS IS FINISHED, IS THAT IT'LL BE MISSING ONE BOWLING PIN, BECAUSE THE KLUGIAN WHO HAD IT IN THE FIRST PLACE - WILL STILL HAVE IT, ONLY BACK ON KLUG, WHERE HE'LL BE RETURNED TO!

WALTERS appears wary of PRETZ's ways of embellishing the switch.

DERP

YOU CAN'T DO ALL THAT! I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYBODY DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT!

DORIS

THAT'S ONE BETTER THAN THAT GUY I SAW WHO COULD JUGGLE SIX BOWLING PINS, IF YOU COULD DO THAT!

PRETZ

HERE GOES!

PRETZ dramatically hits a button. Nothing happens. Suddenly a small explosion goes off in some obscure corner of the spacecraft where there was a "Bobo For Mayor" bumpersticker on the remains of a Jaguar.

PRETZ

THAT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN.

DERP

THAT WAS MY JAGUAR!

CLERP

THAT WAS ONLY PART OF A JAGUAR, BESIDES, YOU STILL HAVE THE BOWLING PIN. SOUNDS LIKE A FAIR TRADE TO ME.

PRETZ

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT...? IT SAYS I... DIDN'T PICK UP THE SPARE.

KLUGIAN in bowling alley (whose bowling pin went to Derp) is chanting and using two hands to bang a bowling ball on the ground, which all the other KLUGIANS in the entire bowling alley stare at fixedly as they bang their bowling pins and chant. FADE OUT.

44. FADE IN. EVERYBODY on Mars, Klug, Earth and Zorp are all watching the same scene, by being gathered around television monitors, in huge crowds, in bars, in living rooms, at beaches on portable televisions, etc. The scene they are all watching shows a platform with a podium in a small town square, on which stands CLYDE, THE MARS ZUNS standing in a group smiling shyly at LOUISE, HARRIET, DORIS and ETHEL standing in a group smiling shyly back, VINKALERT holding hands and exchanging loving looks with GOSK, BUEGERT holding hands and exchanging loving looks with the CELLIST (both wearing strange, homemade looking space helmets with car hood ornaments coming out of the side and the words "Bobo For Mayor" written on them), and MR. PEABODY. A

(relatively) small audience is in immediate physical presence, with many television cameras and microphones visible.

MR. PEABODY

WELL, THAT WAS QUITE AN ADVENTURE, WASN'T IT EVERYBODY? (EVERYONE ON PLATFORM nods their heads) BUT I'M SURE EVERYONE HERE, AND (looking straight at camera now) EVERYONE OUT THERE, WILL BE HAPPY TO KNOW THAT FINALLY EVERYTHING HAS BEEN STRAIGHTENED OUT AND SOON EVERYONE WILL BE EXACTLY WHERE THEY BELONG! (EVERYONE ON PLATFORM except MR. PEABODY suddenly becomes grim.) SAY, WHAT'S THE MATTER, DOESN'T EVERYBODY WANT TO GO BACK HOME? (There is a brief, tense, pause.)

DERP

(His head cast down) I THINK WHAT EVERYONE'S TRYING TO SAY IS... (DERP suddenly looks straight into television camera) WE'VE ALL LEARNED TO LOVE OUR NEW HOMES, I MYSELF, SOMETIMES, AM SCARCELY OUT OF MY OWN SPACECRAFT FOR MORE THAN, OH, FIVE MINUTES A WEEK, FIVE MINUTES A WEEK? (DERP looks at the other MARS ZUNS, who solemnly nod their heads that DERP guessed the right number of minutes a week) SEE? I MEAN, WELL, WE... ALL JUST HAVE LEARNED TO LOVE OUR NEW HOMES, THAT'S ALL, I, UH, WANTED TO SAY. (EVERYONE

ON PLATFORM except MR. PEABODY nods their heads vigorously, with emotion, as if DERP had truly spoken for all of them. EVERYBODY watching on the four planets, in cutaways, also nod their heads vigorously, with emotion. MR. PEABODY looks dumbfounded.) AND THERE'S ONE MORE THING. I FOUND THIS OUT ONLY HOURS AGO, AND HAVEN'T TOLD ANYBODY. I'M NOT SURE I SHOULD SAY ANYTHING... CAN EVERYBODY KEEP A SECRET? (EVERYBODY on the four planets nods their heads in a confidential manner) THIS IS WHAT I FOUND OUT. I COLLECTED A GREAT AMOUNT OF SECRET DATA ON "THE POPULATION MOVER" BUTTON (A questioning look appears on the faces of first everyone on the platform, then EVERYBODY on the four planets). "THE POPULATION MOVER" BUTTON! THE BUTTON THAT MOVED EVERYBODY TO THESE DIFFERENT PLANETS! (EVERYONE ON PLATFORM nods their heads, understanding, followed by EVERYBODY on the four planets nodding their heads, understanding.) RIGHT. I FOUND OUT.... I REALLY DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD BE EXPLAINING THIS PART TO EVERYBODY... (EVERYONE ON PLATFORM starts saying, "OH, COME ON, DERP," followed by EVERYBODY on the four planets shouting at their televisions, "OH, COME ON, DERP!") OKAY. THIS IS WHAT I FOUND OUT. (Whispering) EVERYBODY FROM THE PLANET OF KLUG? THEY REALLY STARTED OUT AS - NO WAIT, THE ZORPIANS WERE THE, ON THE PLANET, UH... OH, RIGHT, EVERYBODY FROM THE PLANET KLUG IS REALLY A MARTIAN! DID I GET THAT RIGHT? YEAH, EVERYBODY ON KLUG IS A MARTIAN AND EVERYBODY ON EARTH REALLY BEGAN FROM PEOPLE FROM MARS, NO I SAID THE KLUGIANS BEGAN ON MARS, DIDN'T I? AND THE MARTIANS ARE REALLY EARTHLINGS AND THE ZORPIANS? THEY'RE A CROSS-

BREED OF EVERYBODY! NOT EVERYBODY EVERYBODY, I MEAN EVERYBODY OF THESE THREE PLANETS, MARS, EARTH, AND KLUG. AND FLIES? THEY COME FROM A DISTANT GALAXY, HANDPICKED BY THE ZORPIANS WHO WANTED TO MESS EVERYBODY UP FROM EARTH, FOR REJECTING A MARRIAGE OF A, NO WAIT, THAT LAST PART WAS PROBABLY FROM A MOVIE I SAW. SO ANYWAY, AS I WAS SAYING, THE KLUGIANS ARE FROM.... (As DERP speaks, a multitude of reactions are seen from EVERYBODY on the four planets, reactions ranging from extremely comtemplative looks to looks of confusion, amusement, etc.) ANYWAY, THE IMPORTANT THING, MR. PEABODY, IS THAT WE LOVE OUR NEW HOMES, AND WE DON'T WANT TO GO BACK HOME, UH, TO OUR OLD HOMES, RIGHT! (EVERYONE ON PLATFORM cheers, followed by cheering from EVERYBODY watching television on the four planets.)

MR. PEABODY

WELL, IF THAT'S REALLY THE WAY EVERYBODY FEELS, I DON'T SEE WHY WE CAN'T ALL STAY RIGHT WHERE WE ARE! I MUST HAVE BEEN A DAMN FOOL NOT TO SEE WHAT EVERYBODY REALLY WANTED MYSELF!

Instant jubilation follows. The MARS ZUNS rush into the arms of LOUISE, HARRIET, DORIS and ETHEL. The cardboard visor on the CELLIST's homemade space helmet accidentally slides down over his face as he tries to light a droke. VINKALERT and GOSK kiss.

BUEGERT takes the CELLIST's space helmet off and they kiss, as the cardboard visor on BUEGERT's space helmet is precariously balanced so that it barely keeps from sliding down between their faces. SWERP's bird-stained motorcycle helmet lies unattended on the platform.

45. Joyous celebrating everywhere on the four planets follows, with much interplanetary activity that includes 50's rock and roll music, dancing in the streets, etc. FADE OUT.

46. FADE IN. THE MARS ZUNS are sitting around in a mobile home in undershirts drinking beer, still listening to 50's rock and roll music. Each has an EARTH GIRL sitting on his lap.

DERP

I GUESS EVERYTHING WORKED OUT FOR THE BEST.

CLERP

YEAH, ONLY I WISH THEY HADN'T CANCELLED THAT TELEVISION SHOW THEY PUT GOSK IN. I REALLY DON'T THINK THE PART OF A CLEANING LADY ON A SOUTHERN PLANTATION DURING THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR ON EARTH WAS THE RIGHT KIND OF ROLE FOR HER. I STILL THINK SHE COULD HAVE BECOME A GREAT ACTRESS.

LOUISE

MAYBE THEY'LL GIVE HER ANOTHER CHANCE. LOTS OF PEOPLE MAKE COMEBACKS. WAIT'LL YOU GET USED TO HOW THINGS WOIK ON OITH. LOOK AT GROUCHO MOX. DIDN'T HE MAKE A COMEBACK? NO WAIT, OR WAS THAT JAWGE BOINS? THOSE TWO LOOK SO MUCH ALIKE TO ME.

HARRIET

YEAH, ME TOO. DID YOU SEE "IT'S A MAD, MAD, MAD, MAD WOYULD"? ONE OF THEM WAS GREAT IN THAT, RIGHT? ONLY WHICH ONE? DO YOU KNOW, JERP?

JERP

I DON'T REALLY KNOW THAT MUCH ABOUT OITH - I MEAN EARTH - MOVIES, TO TELL THE TRUTH. SO YOU THINK GOSK CAN MAKE A COMEBACK, THEN?

DORIS

A LOT OF PEOPLE MAKE COMEBACKS! THERE'S ALSO BUGS BUNNY! FOR A
WHILE -

SWERP

YEAH, BUT LOTS OF PEOPLE GET FORGOTTEN ABOUT TOO.

DERP

NOT ME. I'M GONNA REMEMBER GOSK FOR A LONG, LONG TIME.

CLERP

ME TOO! (The other MARS ZUNS and EARTH GIRLS nod their heads
vigorously and emotionally.) LOOK AT THAT! HEY, HAS ANYBODY GOT A
FLY SWATTER?

DERP

LEAVE THAT FLY ALONE!

JERP

(Suspiciously) UM, UH, DERP? DERP! IS THERE SOMETHING YOU HAVEN'T
TOLD US ABOUT WHAT YOU FOUND OUT ABOUT FLIES?

DERP

WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?

JERP

THAT TIME WE WERE ALL ON THE PLATFORM IN FRONT OF EVERYBODY.

SWERP

AND YOU STARTED TO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT FLIES....

CLERP

DERP!

EVERYBODY (except DERP)

YOU CAN'T FOOL US, DERP! COME ON NOW, DERP, COME ON NOW, DERP!

DERP

OKAY! BUT - EVERYBODY HAS TO PROMISE NEVER TO HURT ANOTHER FLY AGAIN FOR AS LONG AS THEY LIVE! (EVERYBODY nods their head solemnly) ALRIGHT, THEN. OKAY... NOW, YOU KNOW MY UNCLE PLERP?

LOUISE

YOU HAVE AN UNCLE PLERP TOO? NO WAIT, THAT WASN'T UNCLE PLERP... THAT WAS... UNCLE...

CLERP

UNCLE PLERP? THE ONE WHO'S ALWAYS RUBBING HIS HANDS TOGETHER? RIGHT? AND YOU SAID HE PICKED THAT UP FROM SOME EARTH TALK SHOW HOST, HE WAS - BEING COSMICALLY ALIGNED WITH YOUR UNCLE PLERP, UH, WHEN HIS...

JERP

I REMEMBER, YOU SAID IT WAS WHEN HIS CAN OPENER WAS PICKING UP
STATIC FROM AN EARTH COOKING SHOW, THERE WAS A COSMIC ALIGNMENT.
AND YOU TOLD US THAT THAT WAS THE REASON WHY YOUR UNCLE PLERP
RUBS HIS HANDS TOGETHER.

LOUISE

I THINK I'M FOLLOWING ALL THIS, BUT WHAT DOES THIS ALL HAVE TO DO
WITH WHAT YOU FOUND OUT ABOUT FLIES?

Outside the mobile home the 50's rock and roll music ("There's A
Moon Out Tonight") is blaring loudly. END CREDITS.

THE END